



16<sup>th</sup> SPIE Int'l Symposium on Smart Structures and Materials

# Nano-Bio Quantum Technology for Device Specific Materials

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NASA Langley Research Center

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# Areas to be discussed

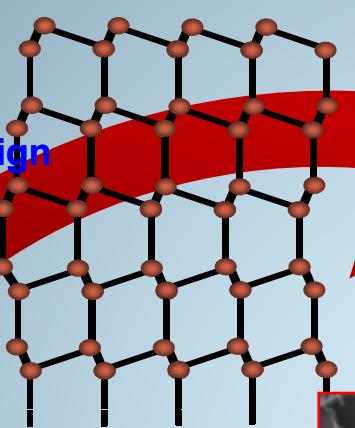
- Thermoelectric Materials
- Smart Optical Materials
  - Quantum Apertures
  - Micro Spectrometers
  - Light Control Ferroelectric Materials
- Ferritin Molecules
  - Biotemplates for Nanoparticles
  - Bionanobattery



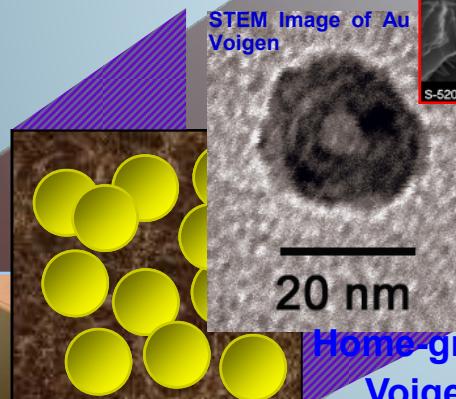
# ADVANCED THERMOELECTRIC MATERIAL DEVELOPMENT

Twin Crystal with  
Stacking Defect:  
Better Material Design  
than Superlattice

**SiGe**



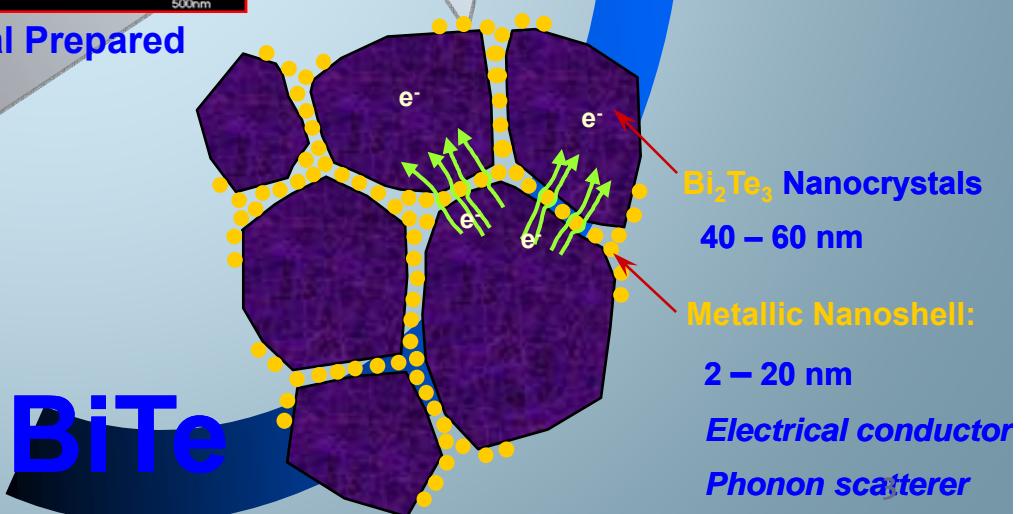
High  
Performance  
Semiconductor



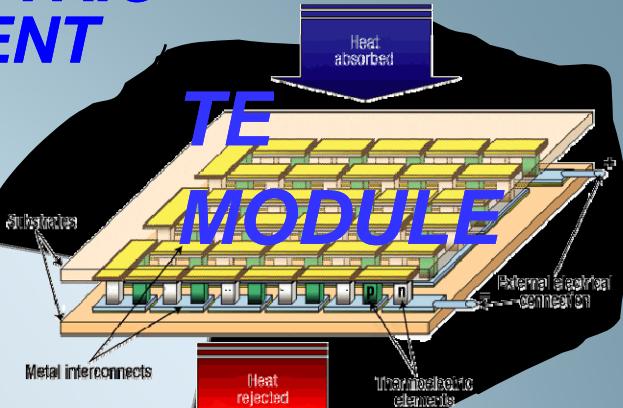
20 nm

Home-grown  
Voigen

**BiTe**



**TE  
MODULE**

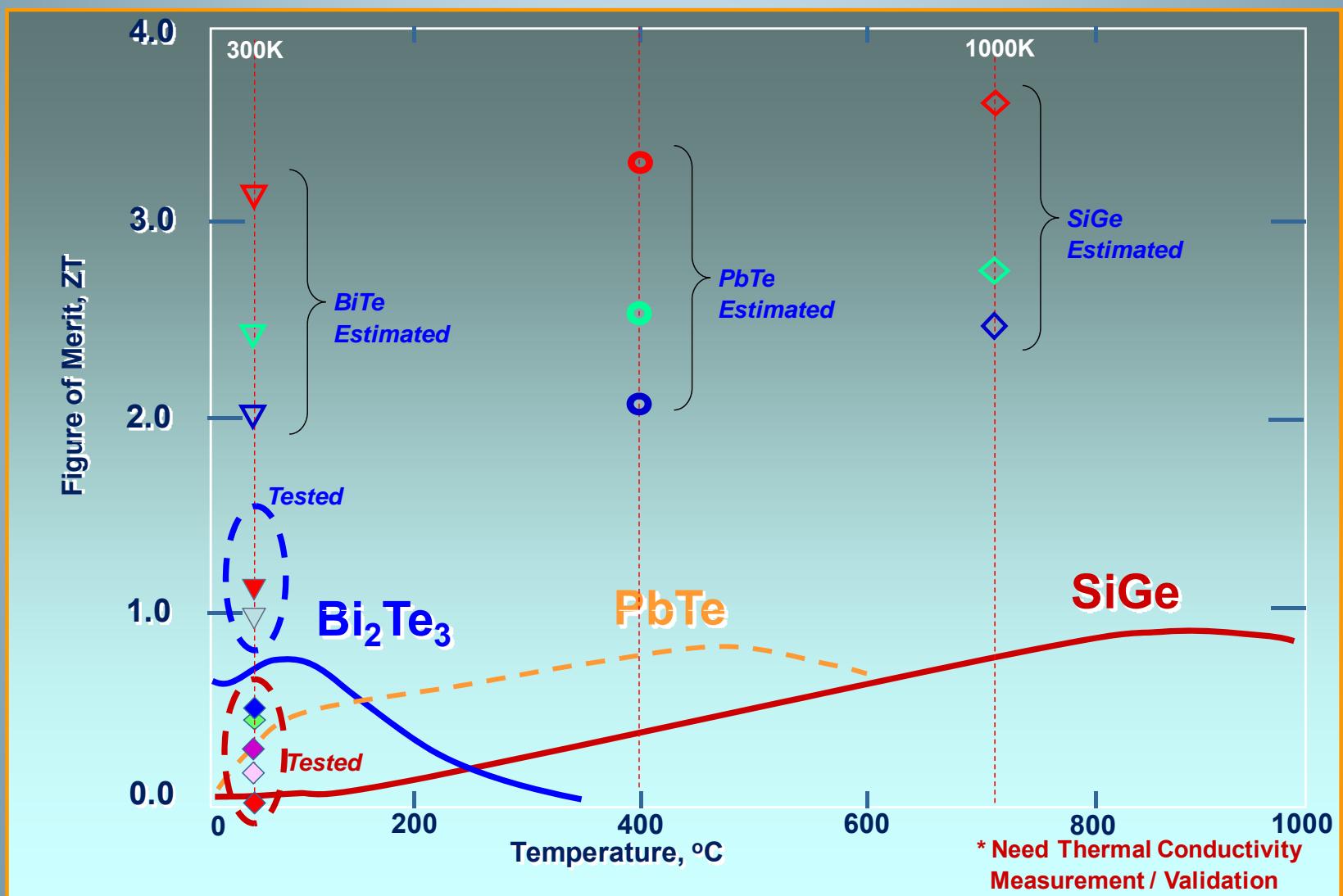


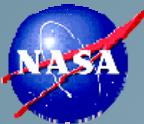
Initial  
Concept

Hot Press /  
Low Pressure  
Material Process

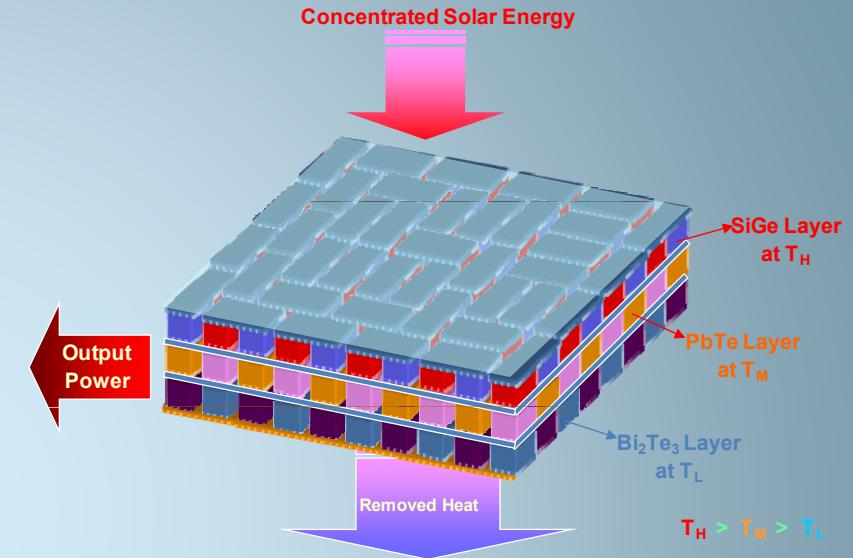
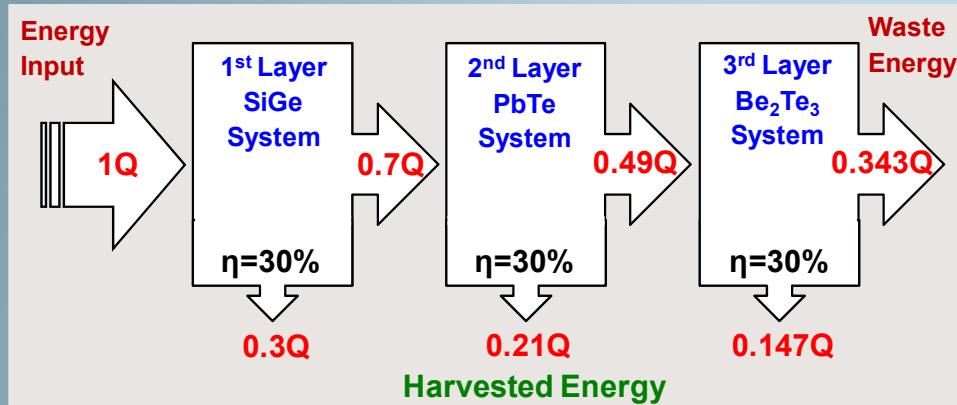


# TE Performance Summary: Results & Projections

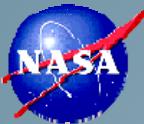




# ATE Device for Solar Energy Conversion

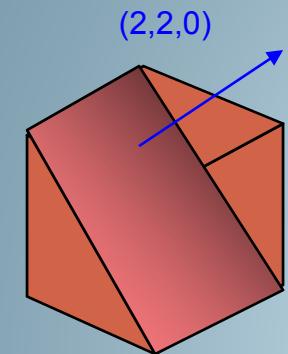


TE Tandem System	TE FoM $\geq 1.5$ $\eta = 10\%$		TE FoM $\geq 3.5$ $\eta = 20\%$		TE FoM $\geq 4.5$ $\eta = 30\%$		Solar Cells
	Loaded Energy, Q	$\eta$	Loaded Energy, Q	$\eta$	Loaded Energy, Q	$\eta$	
1 <sup>st</sup> Layer (Hi T)	1Q in	10 %	1Q in	20 %	1Q in	30 %	30 % (?) for membrane PV
	0.9Q out		0.8Q out		0.7Q out		
2 <sup>nd</sup> Layer (Med T)	0.9 in	10 %	0.8 in	20 %	0.7 in	30 %	30 % (?) for membrane PV
	0.81Q out		0.64Q out		0.49Q out		
3 <sup>rd</sup> Layer (Low T)	0.81Q in	10 %	0.64Q in	20 %	0.49Q in	30 %	
	0.729Q out		0.512Q out		0.343Q out		
Cascade Efficiency	0.271Q Harvested	27 %	0.488Q Harvested	48 %	0.657Q Harvested	65 %	

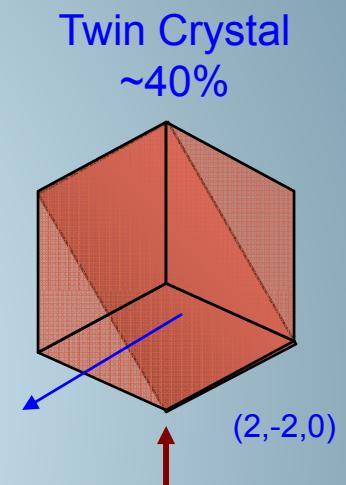
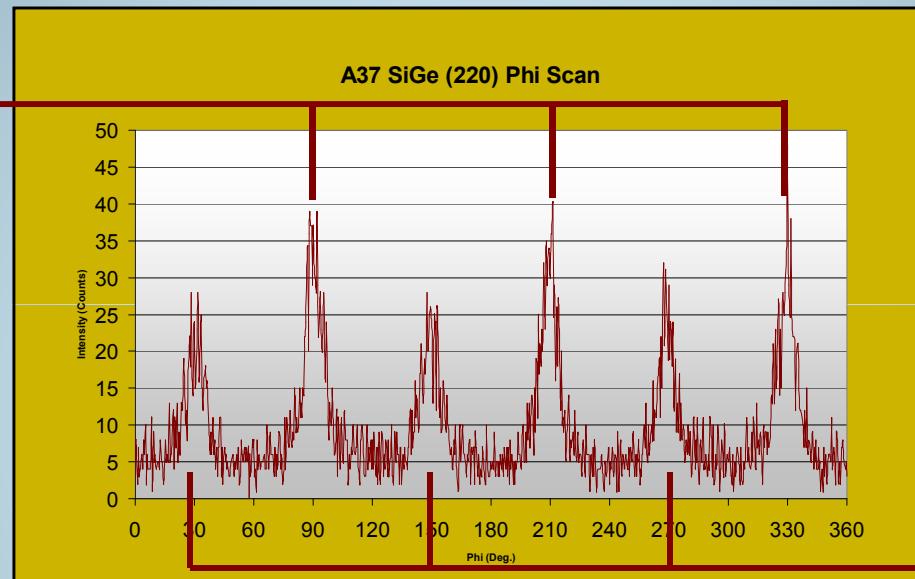


# Si-Ge: Twin-Lattice Structure

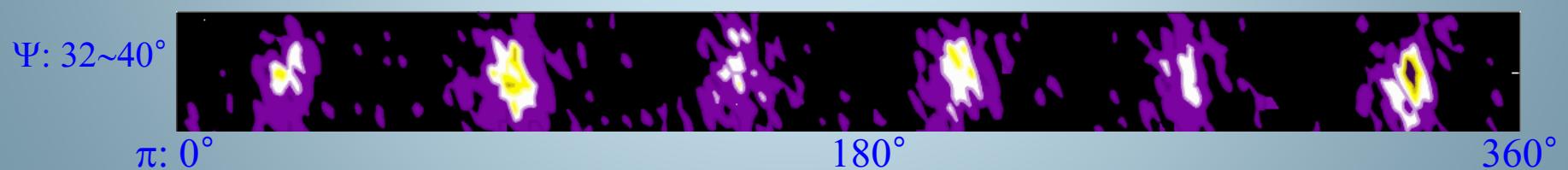
Symmetry Breaking to 60:40



Original Crystal  
~60%



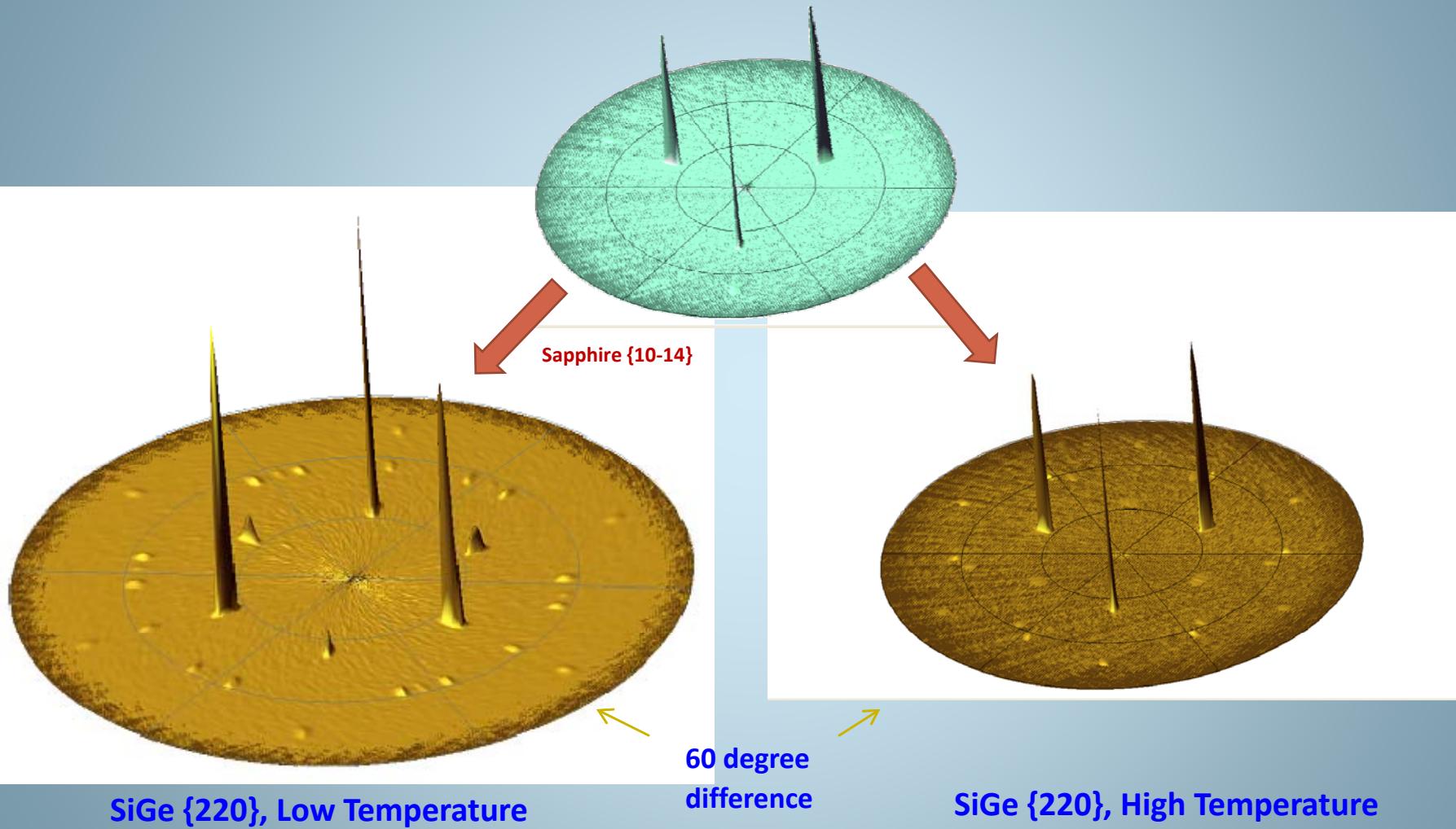
Twin Crystal  
~40%

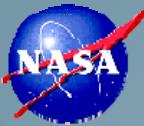




## Rhombohedral Hybrid Band-Gap Engineering

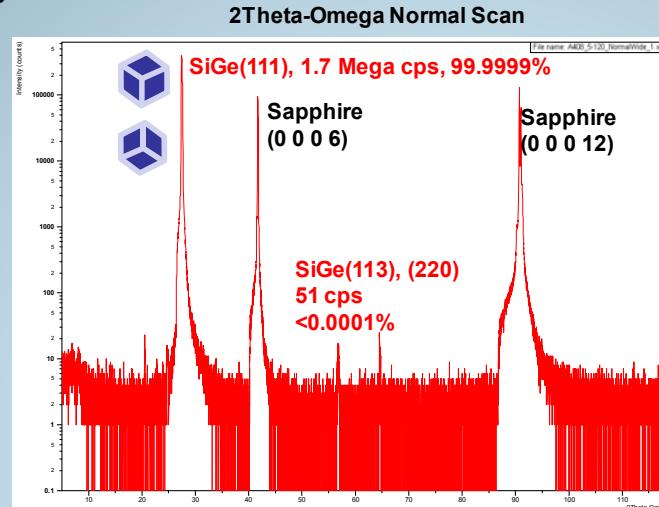
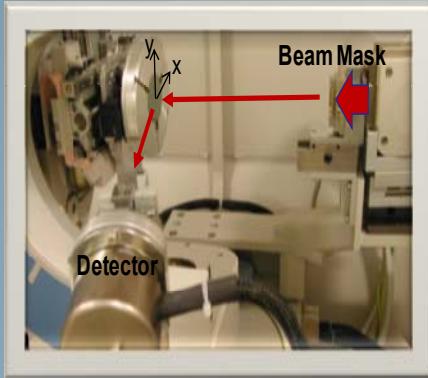
# Two Single Crystalline Alignments



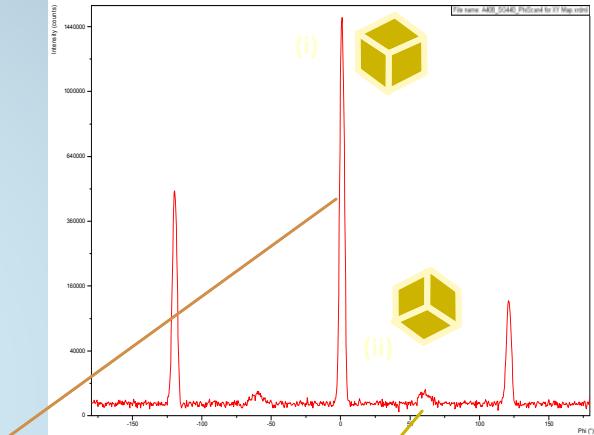


# Wafer Mapping 1. (99.999% single crystal)

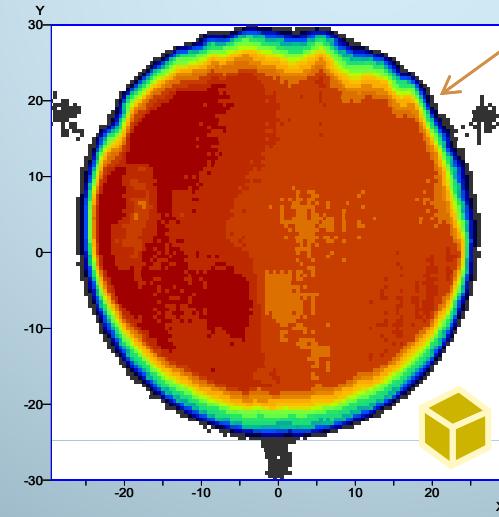
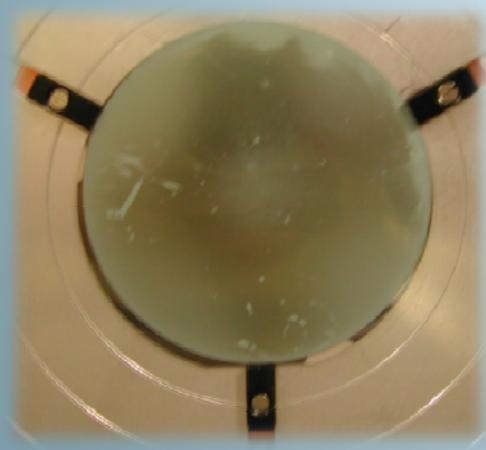
Asymmetric angles for XY mapping  
with Point X-ray source



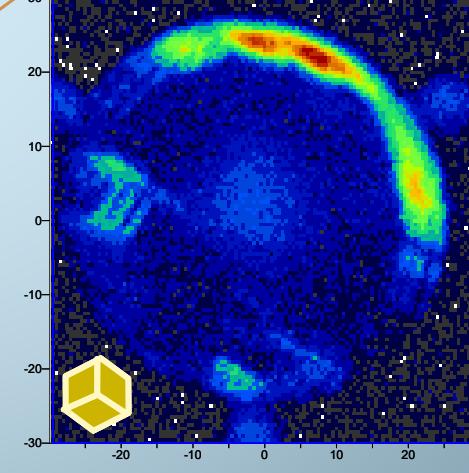
Point X-ray source for mapping  
SiGe(440) Untilted Asymmetric Phi-Scan



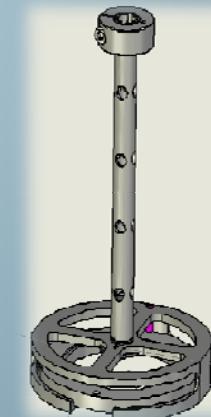
Wafer Mapping



(i) Majority single crystal map



(ii) Defect map: Primary twin crystal rotated by 60° on (111) plane



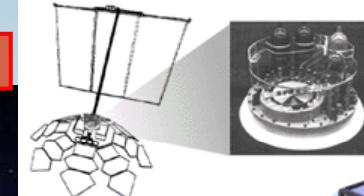
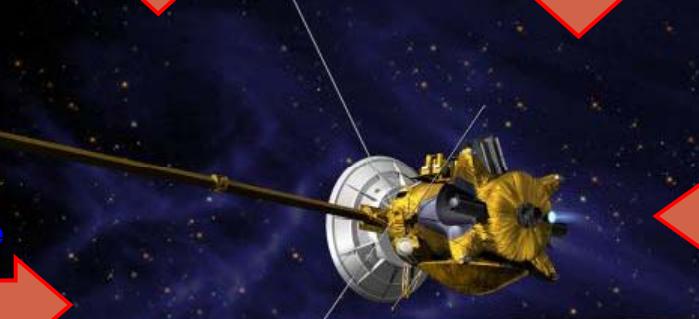
Sample cage  
created + shaped  
thermal shadow



# Power Sources for Spacecrafts



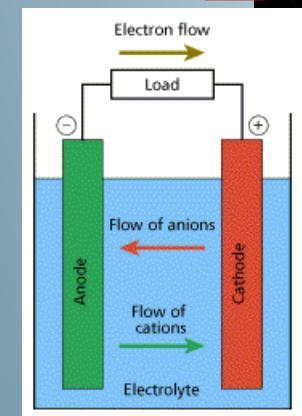
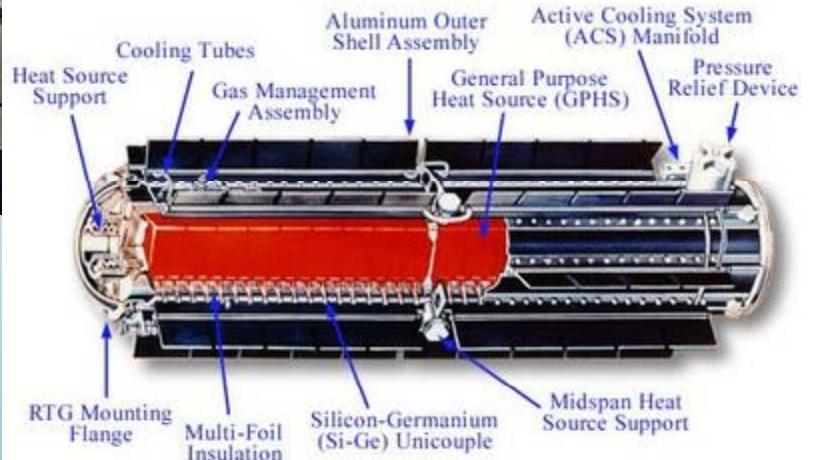
Fly-wheel Power Storage



Fuel Cells



GPHS-RTG



Canister-based Battery



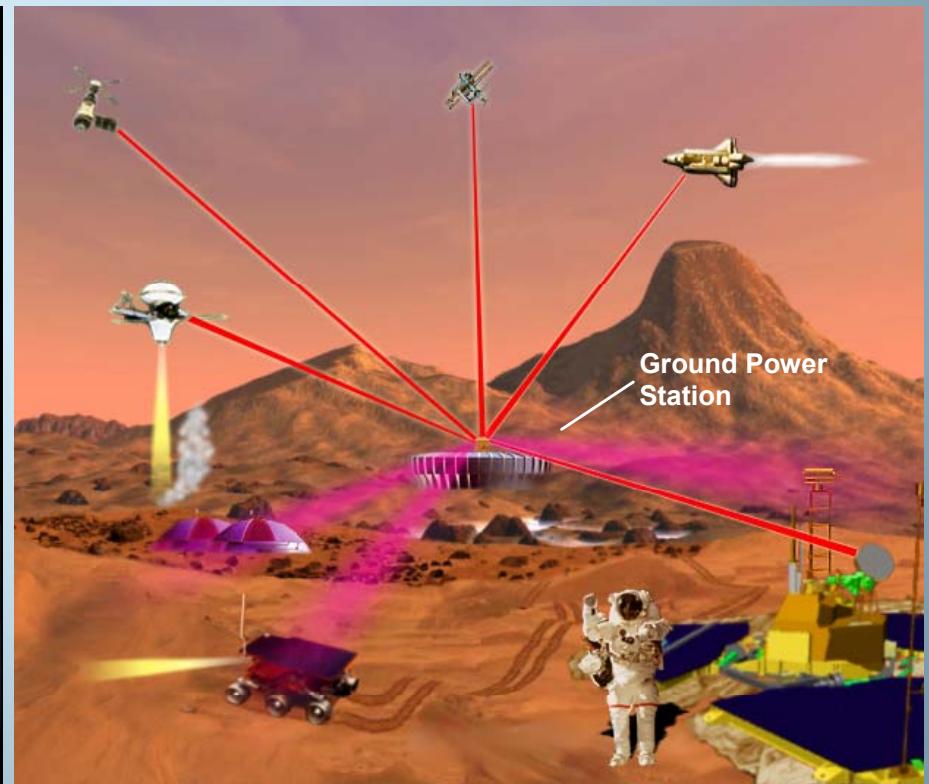
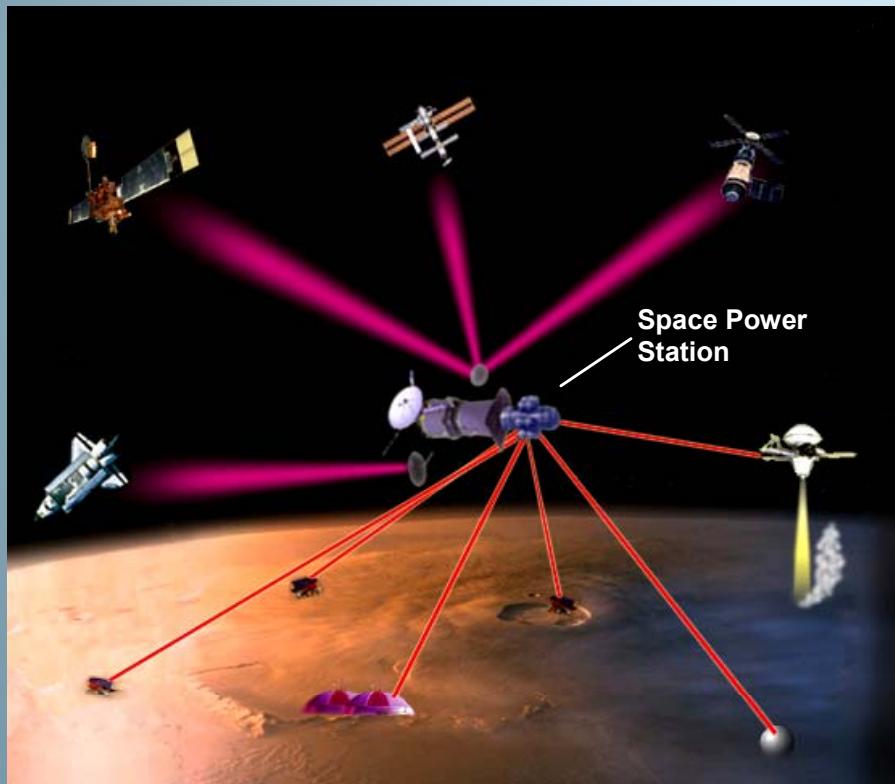
Radioisotope Thermoelectric Generators (RTG)



# Advanced Thermoelectric Power Generation and Transmission System

The proposed system encompasses three subsystems:

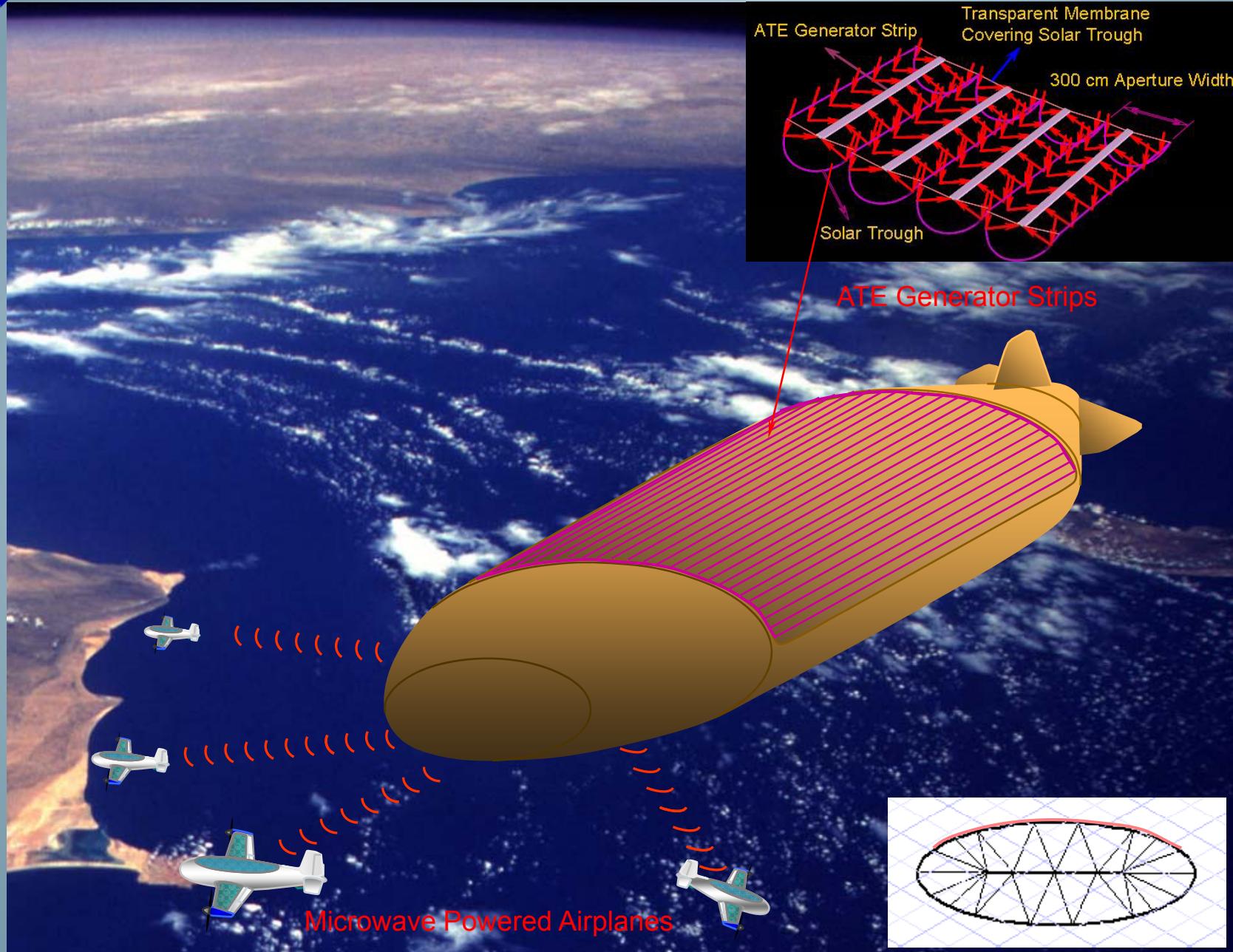
1. Radioisotope Power (RIP) subsystem
2. Advanced Thermoelectric Generator (ATEG) subsystem
3. Wireless Power Transmission (WPT) subsystem

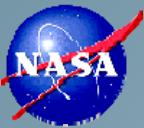


Artist's concepts of Mars space power station installed with WPT-ATEG system: space system (left) and ground system (right).

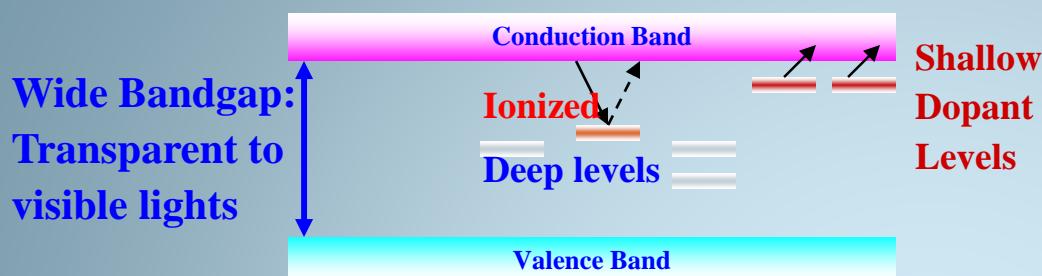


# Solar Thermoelectrics: HAA Model with Ellipsoidal Cross-Section

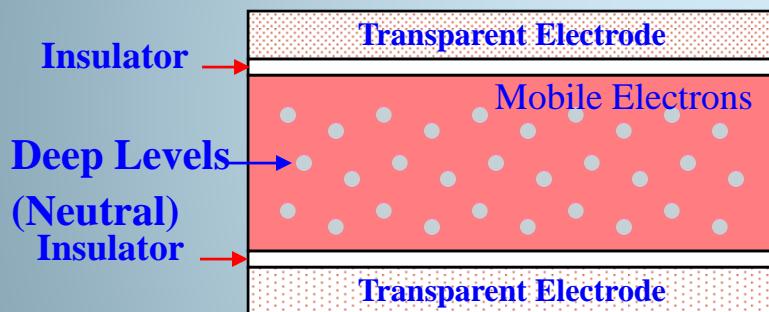




# Distribution of Carriers and Ionization of Deep Levels

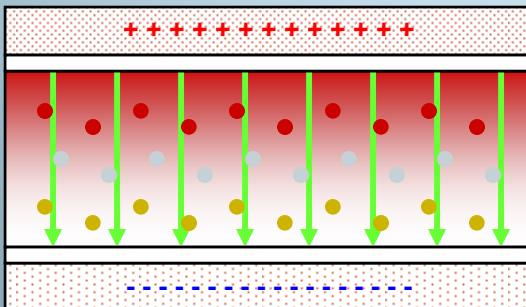


## (1) Without Electric Field



## (2) With Electric Field: Redistribution of Mobile Electrons

Negatively charged deep levels  
Positively charged deep levels



### For wide band-gap materials:

- Transparent to visible lights
- Carriers in **shallow dopant levels** are mobile to conduction or valence band.
- Deep levels in crystal imperfection capture or emit mobile charges.
- Bandgap structure is ionized with the loss or capture of carriers.

### For $|\bar{E}| = 0$ ,

- Mobile electrons distributed **uniformly** in media layer.
- Most of the deep levels are **neutral** in this state.

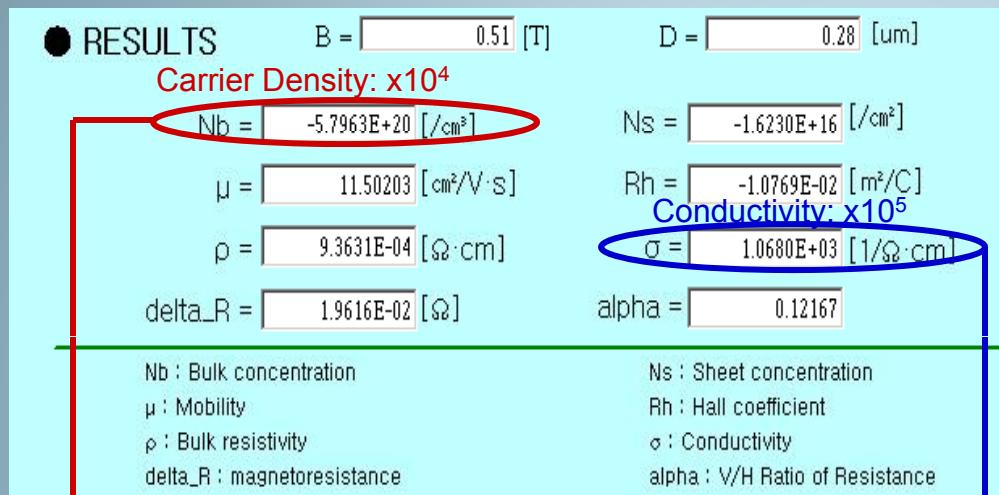
### For $|\bar{E}| >> 0$ ,

- Mobile carriers (electrons in the picture) are **re-distributed**
- Deep levels are **ionized** and form **new color centers**.
- Absorption coefficient and index of refraction are changed

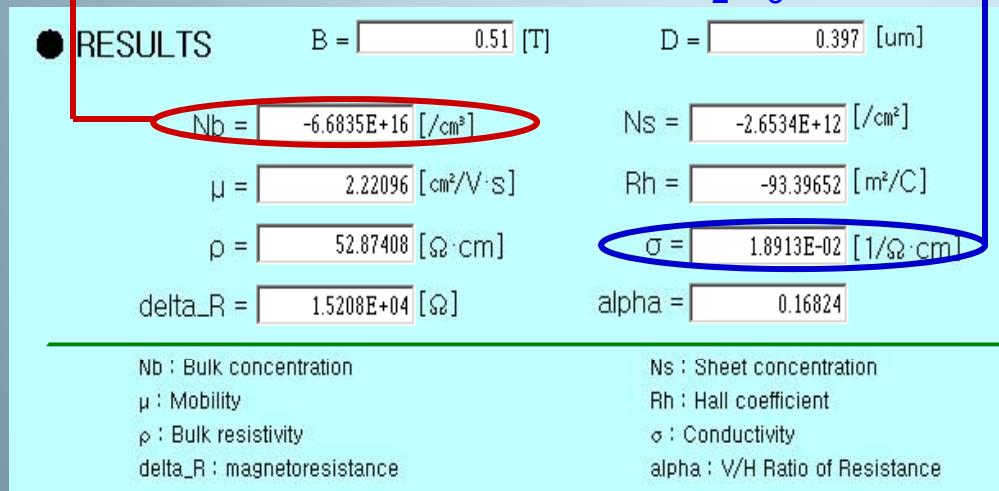


# Hall Effect Measurement

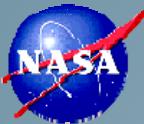
As Grown ScN on  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$



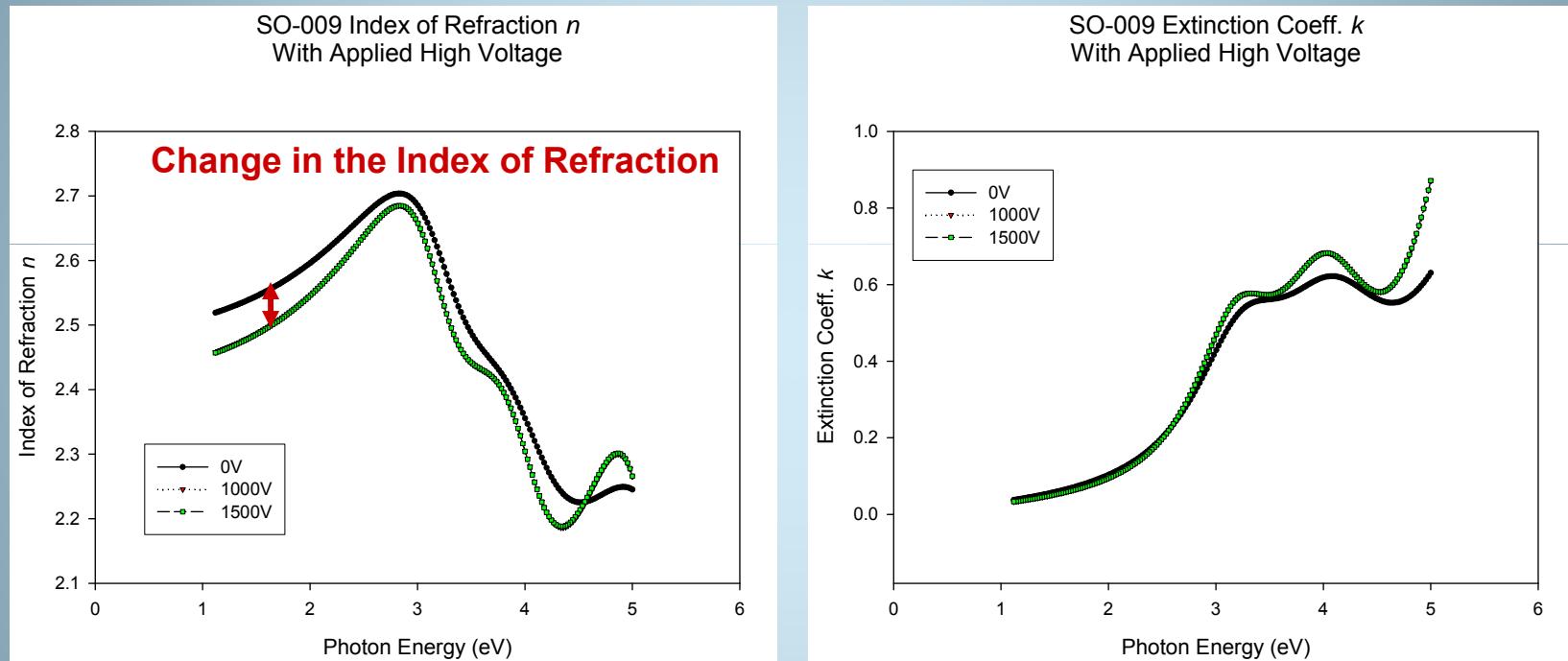
Intrinsic GaN on  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$



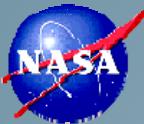
ScN grown on c-axis Sapphire ( $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ ) shows 10,000 times higher electron concentration than intrinsic GaN. This unintentional high-background- doping gives mobile charges in the media. With the applied electric field, the redistribution of mobile charges changes the index of refraction.



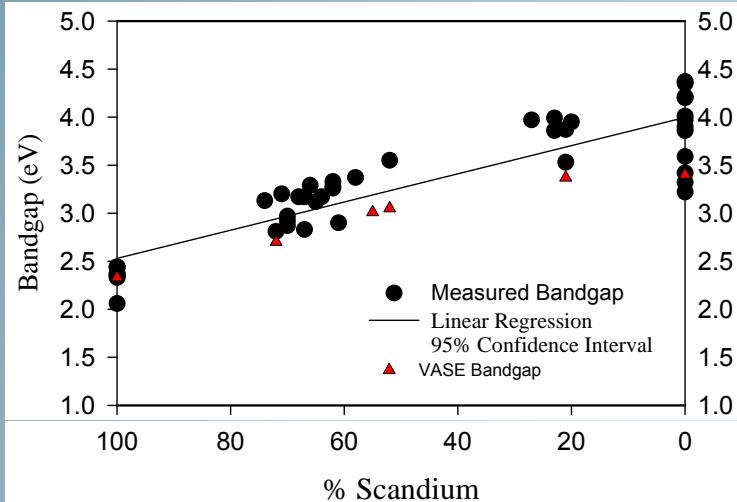
# Change of the Index of Refraction in ScN



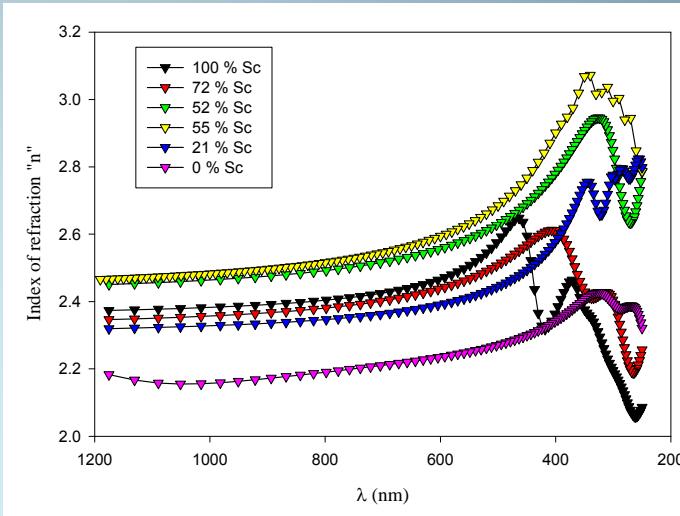
ScN film shows the change in the index of refraction with the applied electric field. The electric field was applied with a few mm gap. The required voltage can be reduced in the optimized structure.



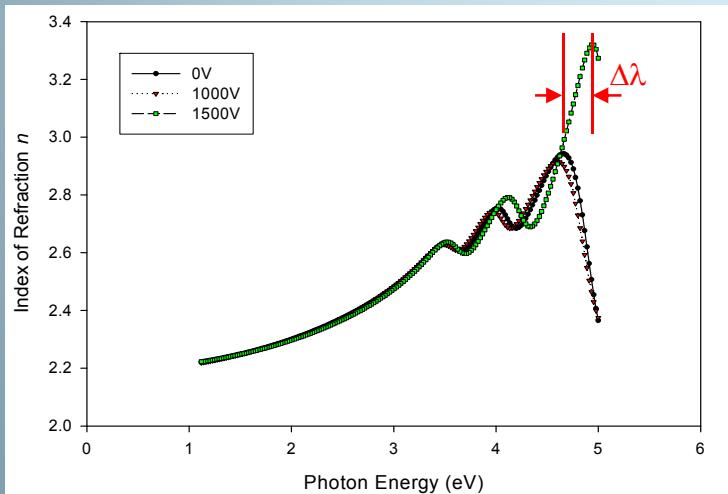
# $Ga_xSc_{1-x}N$ Alloy System



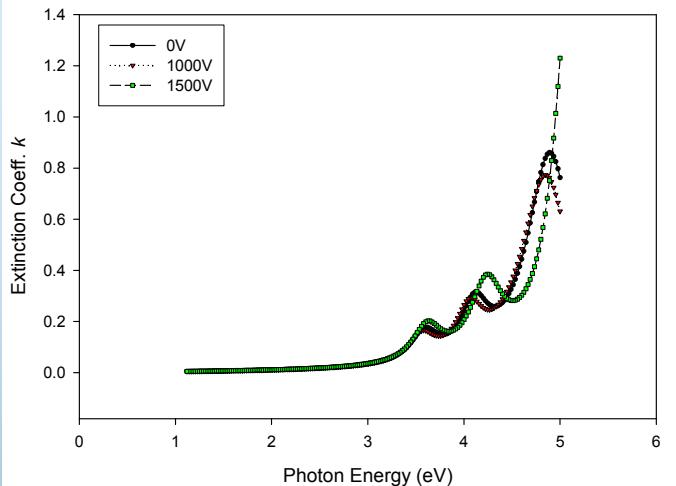
Bandgap Energy versus Scandium Concentration in  $Ga_xSc_{1-x}N$  alloy system.



Index of refraction in the region below optical absorption



A thin-film of scandium-alloyed gallium nitride ( $Ga_xSc_{1-x}N$ ,  $x=0.47$ ) developed on a quartz substrate shows both the spectral and refractive index shifts very clearly from 3.5 eV to higher photon energy.



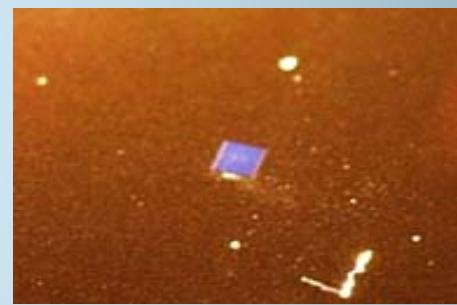
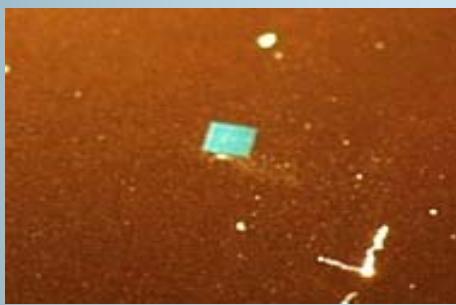
Extinction coefficient data shows a similar response as refractive index in the left, very clearly from 3.5 eV to higher photon energy.



# Adaptive Optical Components



Device Area

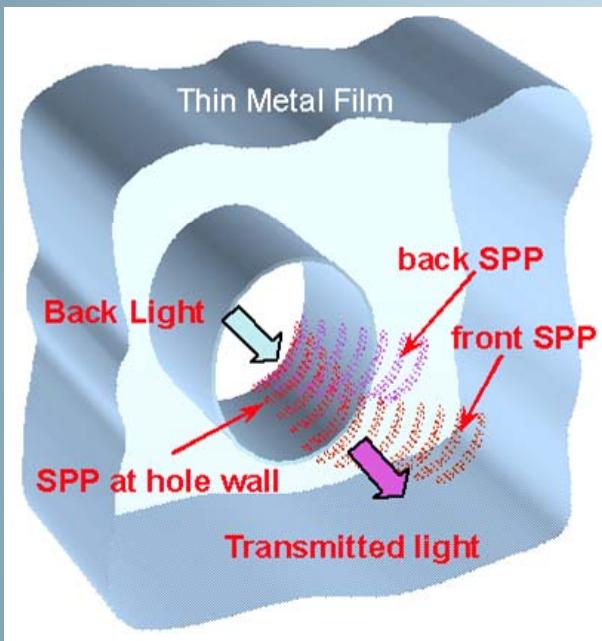


Geometric grating effect from the reflective array, fabricated at NASA LaRC

- The goal of Adaptive Optical Components: Adding a **programmability** to the conventional optical components, including lens, grating, apertures, filters and reflectors. The same optical component can be programmed for different wavelengths and polarizations.
- It can reduce the total weight of satellites and increase the working range and sensitivity of device with **versatility**.



# Plasmon Enhanced Transmission

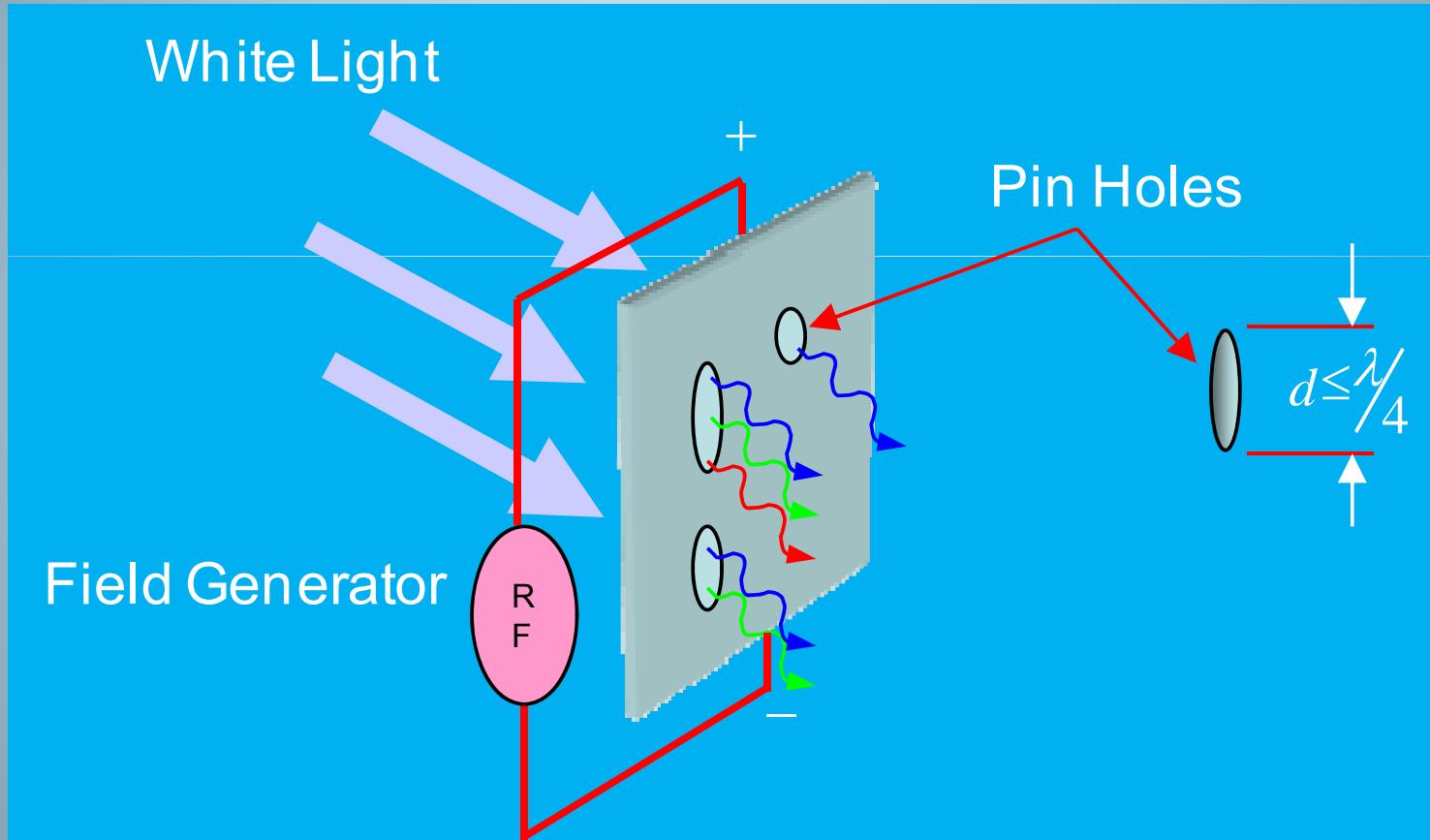


Transmission through  
a quantum aperture

- Metal surface has the collective movement of the electrons at the surface; it is called the surface plasmon, propagating on the surface only.
- The **skin-depth** of a good conductive metal is very shallow; a hundred nanometer metal film is enough to block the light penetration.
- The transmission of the photons through a hole smaller than 1/4 is controlled by the **surface plasmons** in the hole.
- The incident light generates the back surface plasmon. Surface plasmon **propagates through the surface** of the hole. On the front side, the surface plasmon radiates the light again.
- Other experiments indicate there is no enhanced transmission of a long wavelength light through tiny holes in Ge, where there is no plasmon. Only a good conductor surface has plasmon.

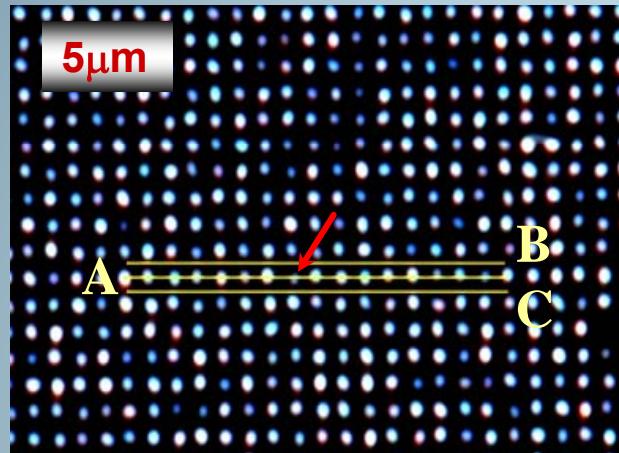


# Nano Apertures

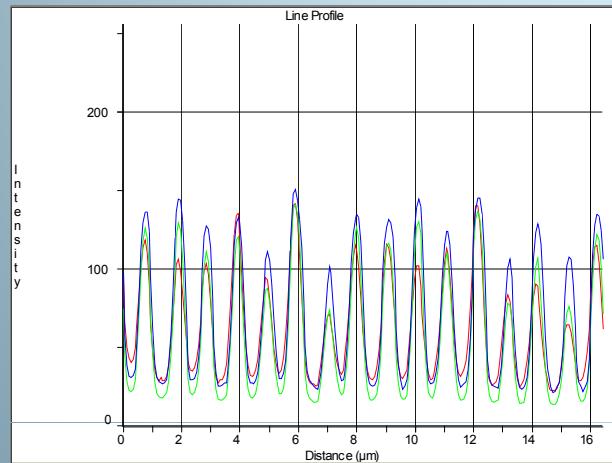




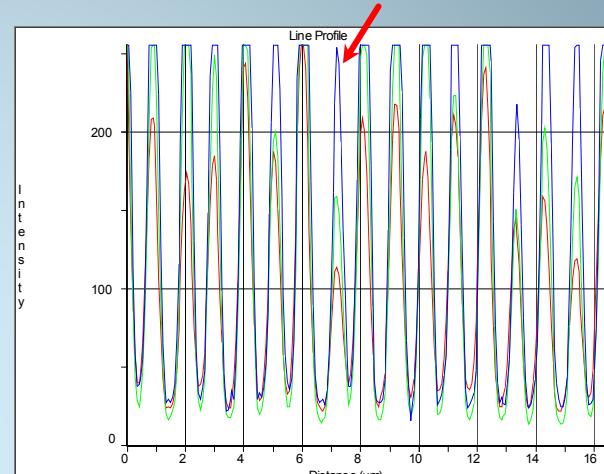
# Microscopic Spectral Distribution From Individual Quantum Aperture with 200nm Diameter



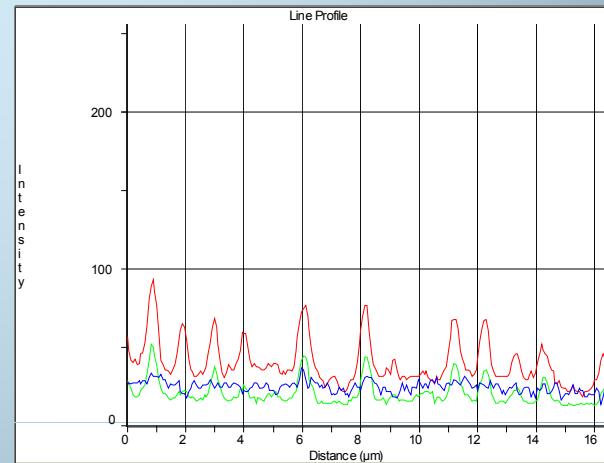
Transmitted Light



Sum of Area between B and C:  
Close to White Light with Blue



Center Line A: Strong Blue

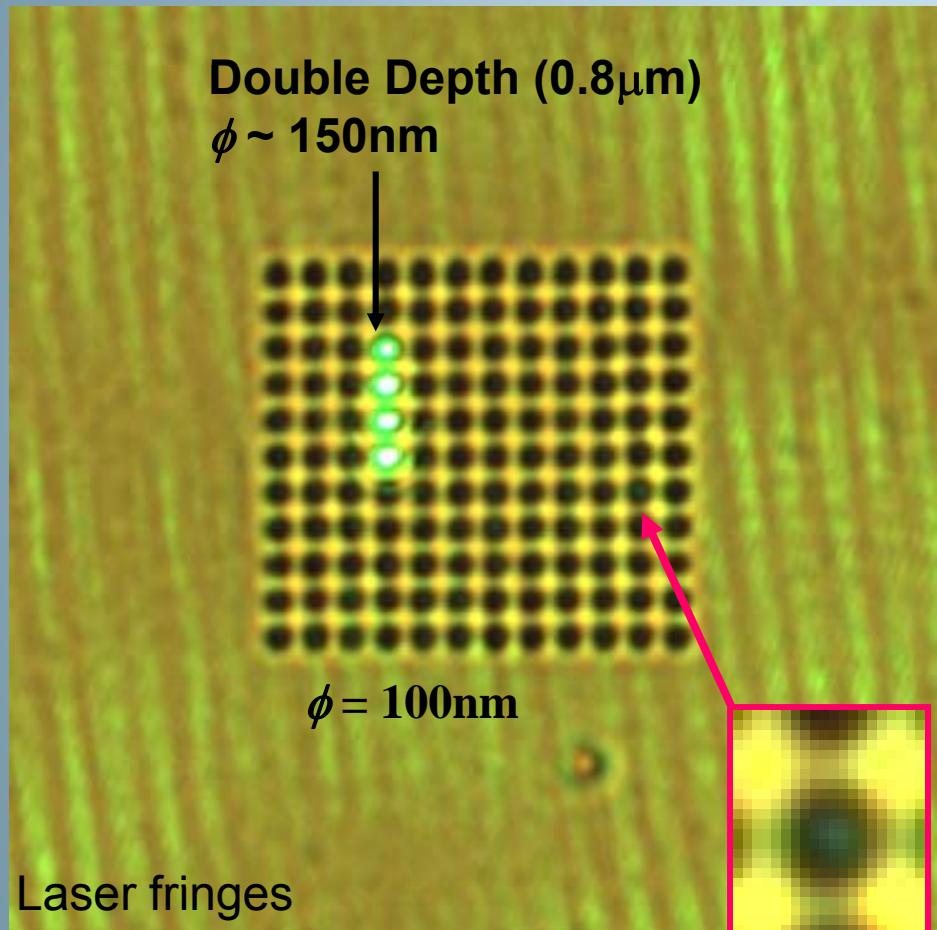


Boundary Line B or C:  
Dark Red

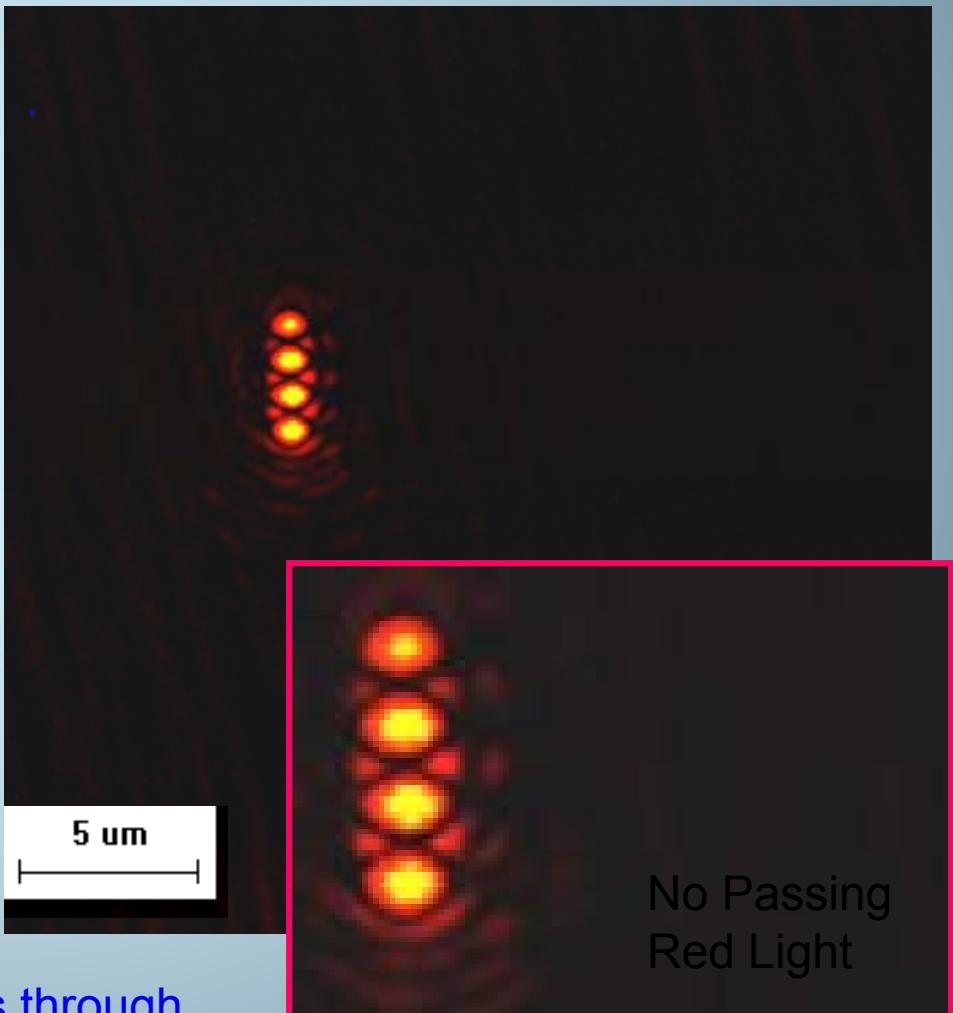


# Selected Light Transmission

Laser (532nm) + Front side illumination



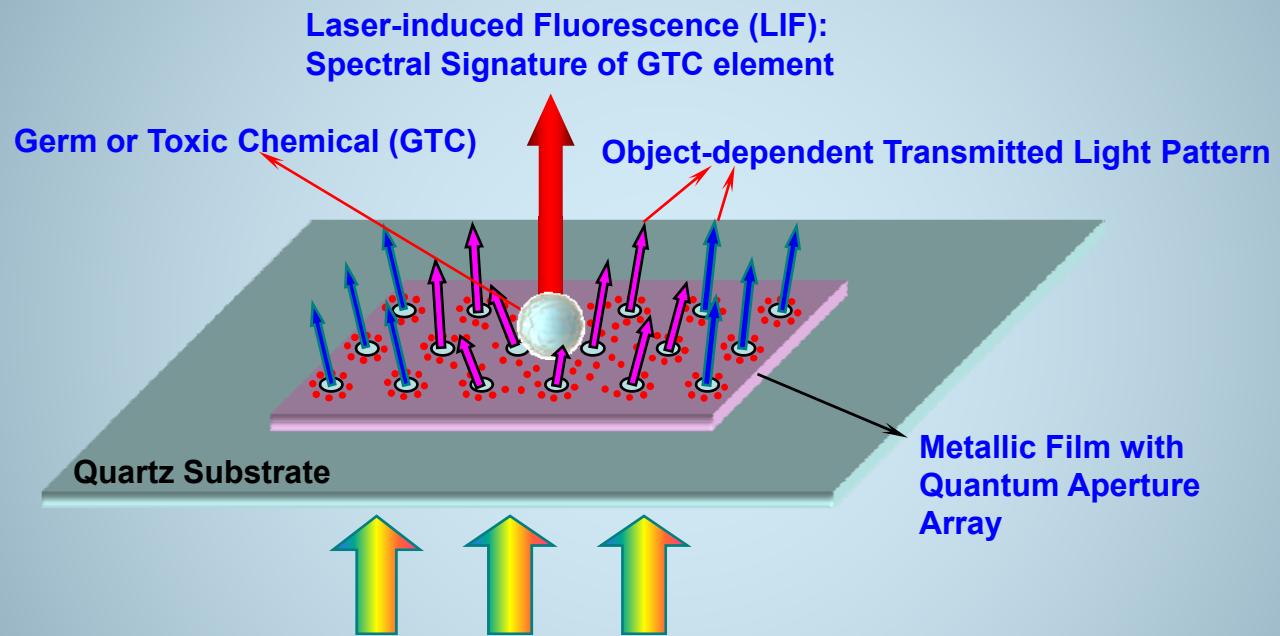
Laser (630nm) backside illumination only



Green light passes through.



## Dual Sensing Capable Germ or Toxic Chemical (GTC) Sensor using Quantum Aperture Array with Surface Plasmon Polariton (SPP)



### NOTE:

- Surface Plasmon Polariton (SPP)
- Electron
- ↑ Light Transmission by undisturbed SPP
- ↑ Light Transmission by disturbed SPP

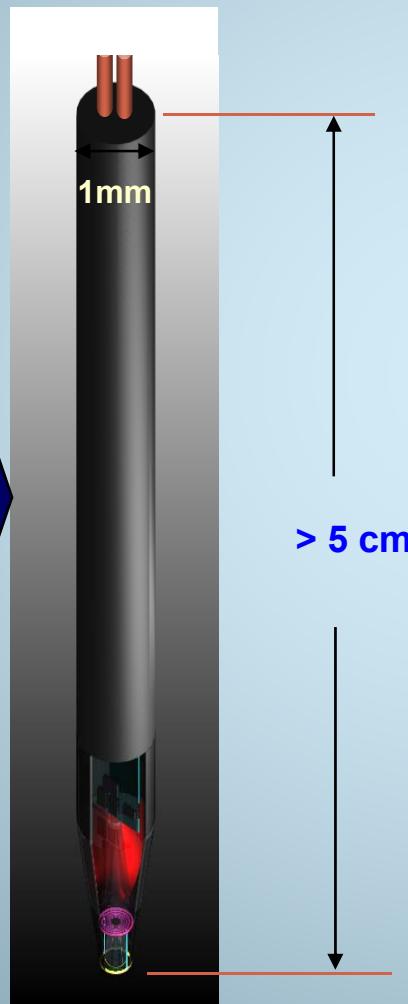


# Micro Spectrometer ( $\mu$ -SM) Applications

## Medical Application for Neurosensing

**Medical Sensors:**

- Tiny form factor < 1 mm
- Flexible pin
- Sensor fusion capable
- Power & telemetry
- Redundancy feature



## For Space Exploration

### Leveraging Factors

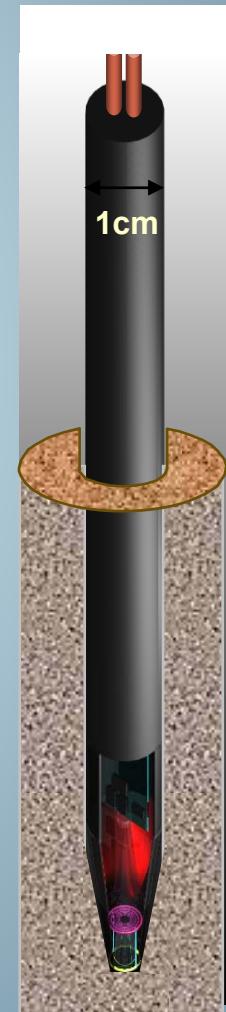
#### Space:

- $\mu$ -SM imbedded rover tires
- $\mu$ -SM imbedded Astronaut's shoes
- $\mu$ -SM imbedded canes or darts
- Hyperspectral imaging

#### Aeronautics:

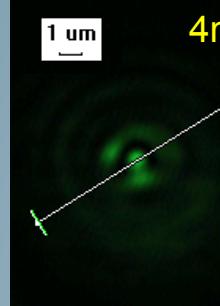
- Engine combustion monitoring
- Fuel leak detection
- Hyperspectral Lidar imaging

Can be used in  
Tumble-weed type  
planetary surface explorer

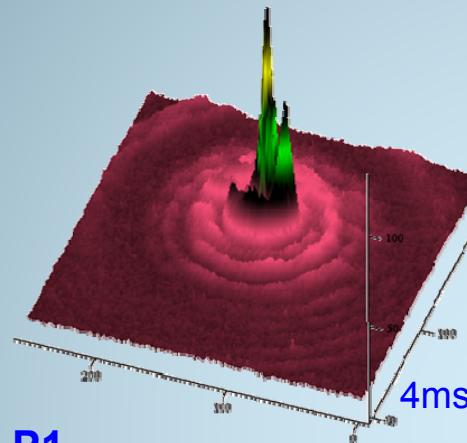




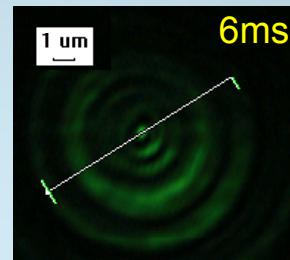
# *Sharpness of focal point P1 and PX with a green laser ( $\lambda=532\text{nm}$ )*



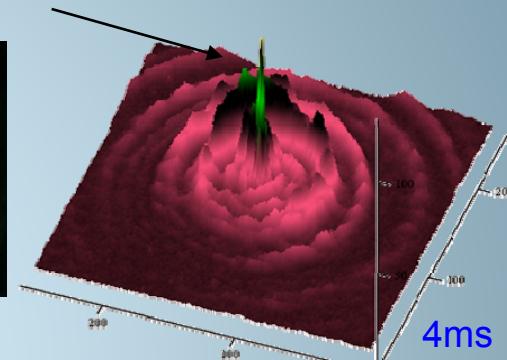
4ms



10 mW Laser in 2mm diameter (0.3 W/cm<sup>2</sup>) can have a focused power density =  $10^5$  Watt/cm<sup>2</sup>



6ms

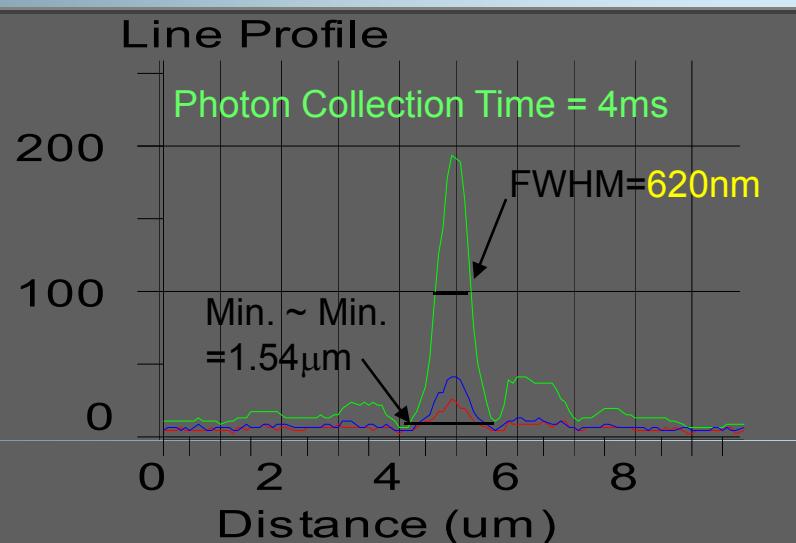


FOCAL POINT PX

(2 $\mu\text{m}$  before destructive interference height)

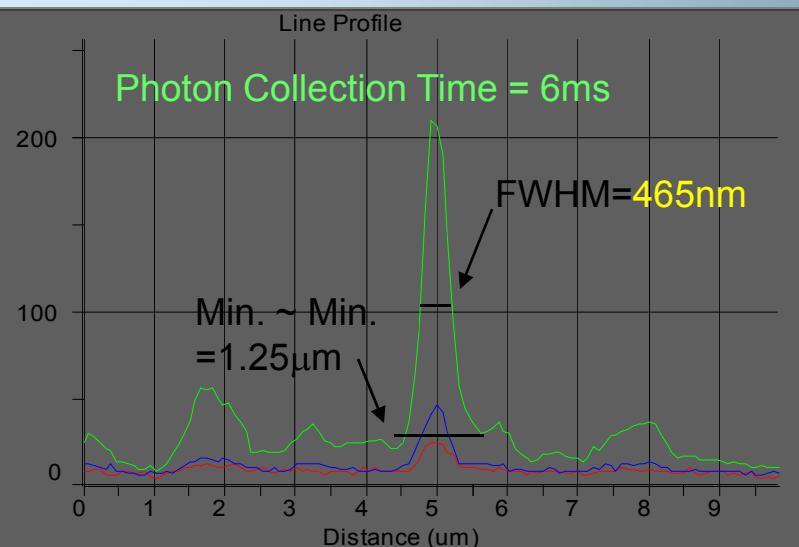
Line Profile

Photon Collection Time = 4ms



Line Profile

Photon Collection Time = 6ms



Photonic DART Technology  
(Densely Accumulated Ray-point by micro-zone-plate)

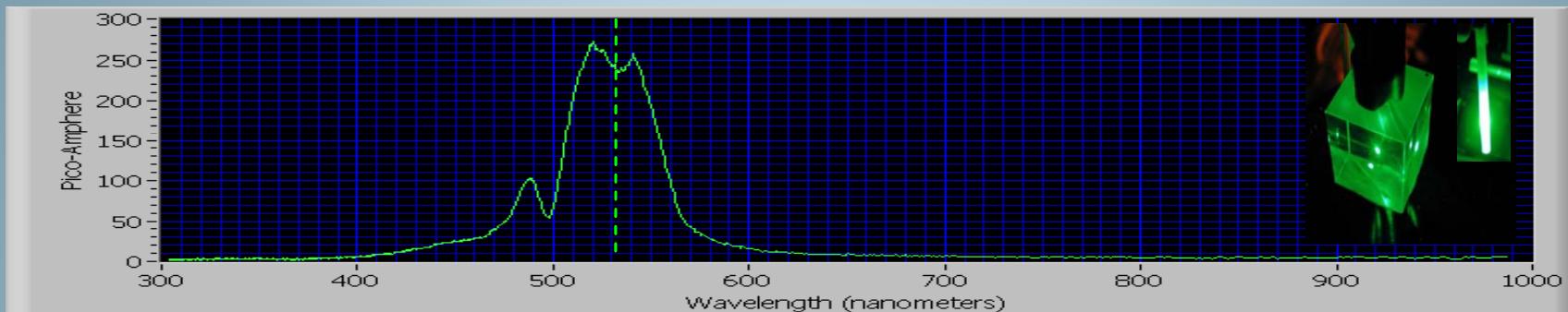
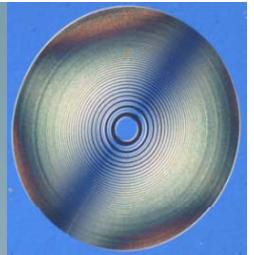


## Spectral scans:

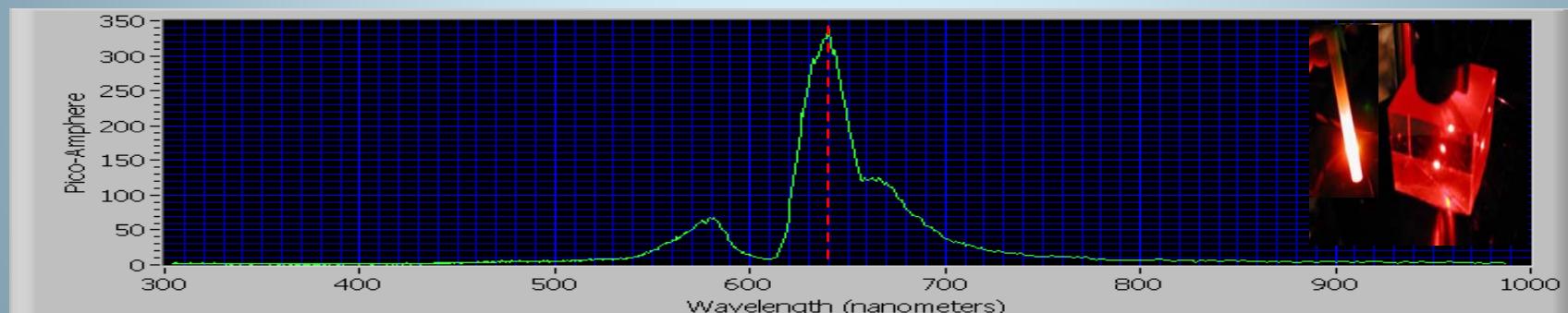
Circular Grating: 100 rings, 750 $\mu$ m diameter

Aperture: 10  $\mu$ m diameter

Green Laser: 532nm



Red Laser: 633nm

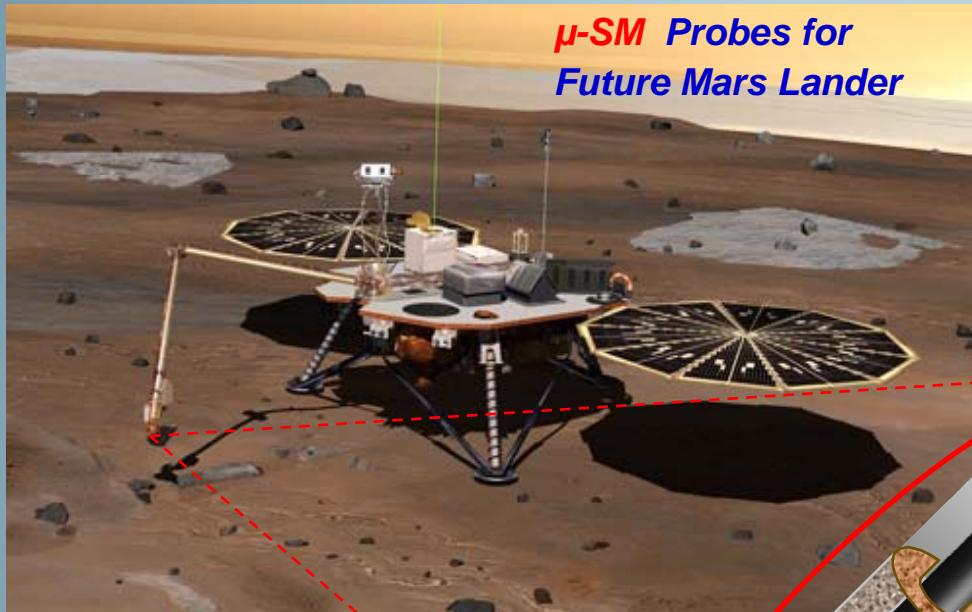


Green & Red Lasers: 532nm & 633nm

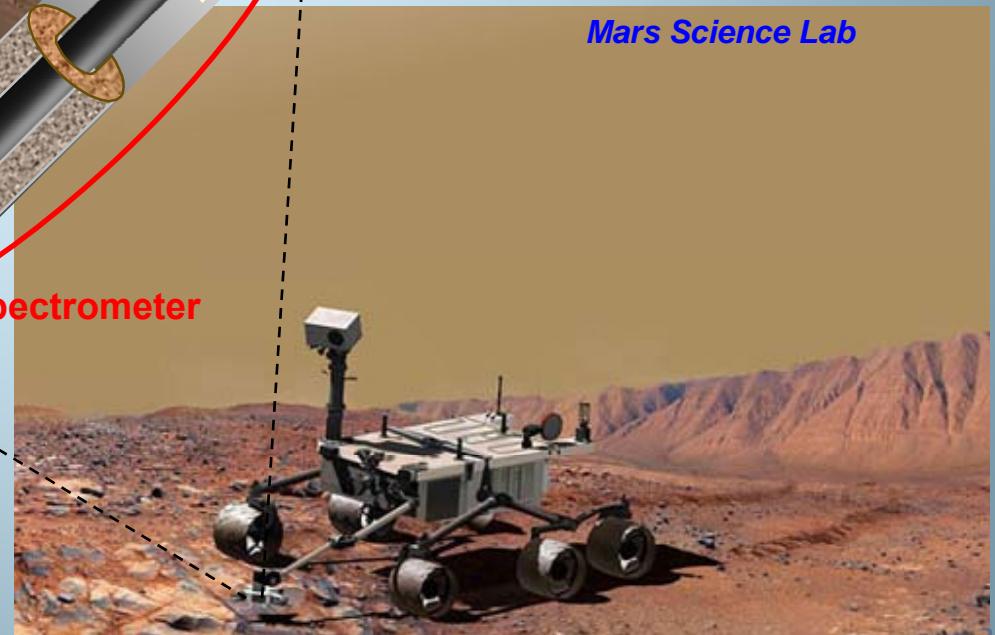
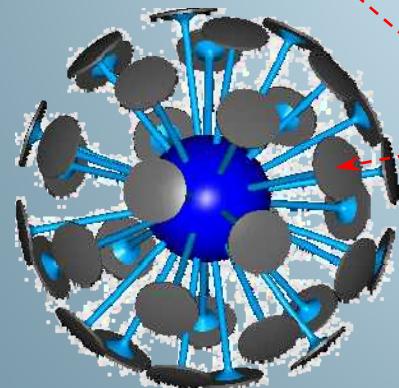




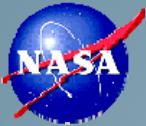
# $\mu$ -Spectrometer ( $\mu$ -SM) Applications Lunar & Mars Exploration



Mars Science Lab



$\mu$ -SM imbedded Tumbleweed Rover

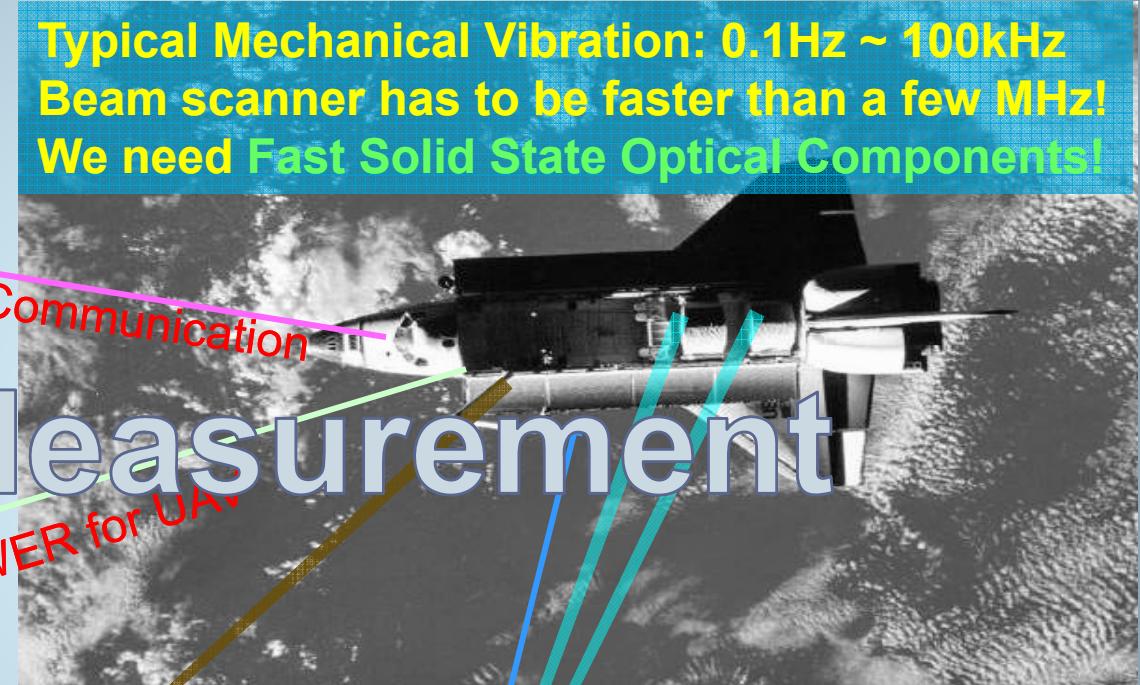


# Aero-Space Application



Typical Mechanical Vibration:  $0.1\text{Hz} \sim 100\text{kHz}$   
Beam scanner has to be faster than a few MHz!  
We need Fast Solid State Optical Components!

## 3D Measurement

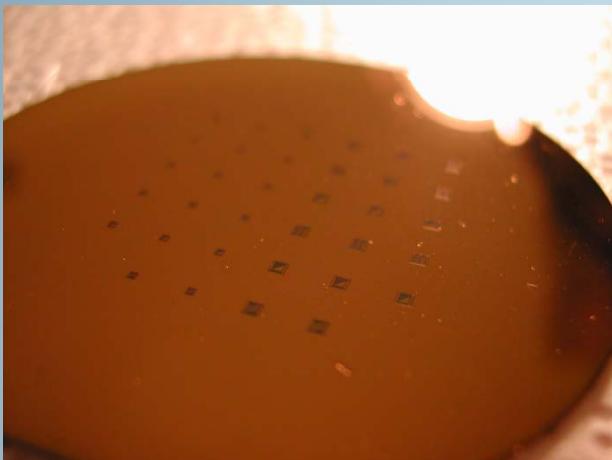


3D Measurement  
Interference Fringe  
Two Photon Excitation

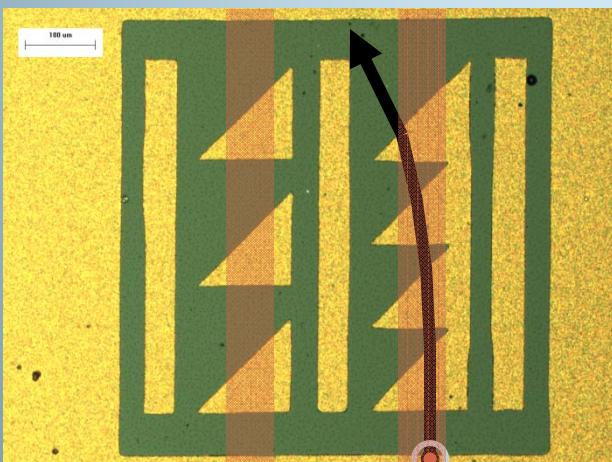
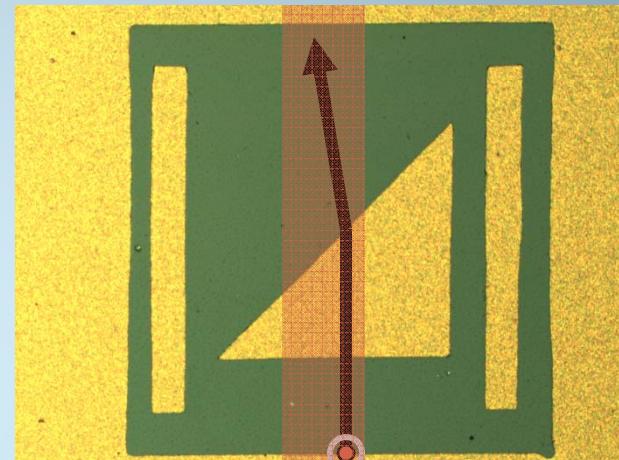


# Lithography and Etched Patterns

E-Beam Lithography



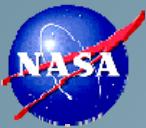
Single Beam Scanner



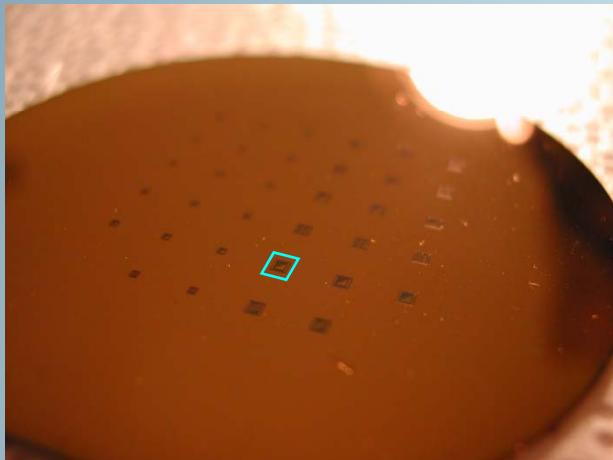
Beam Scanner Array



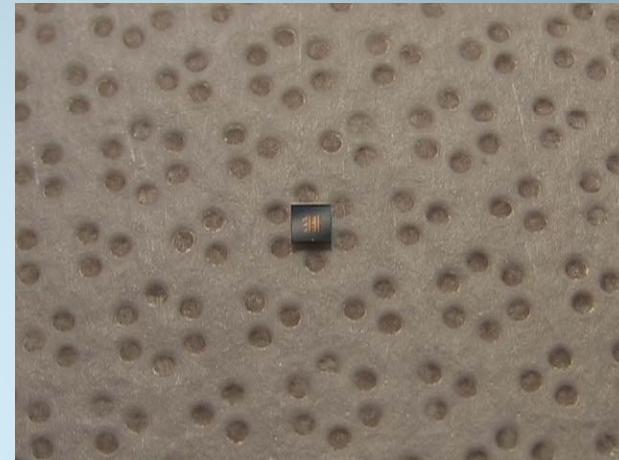
Beam Displacer



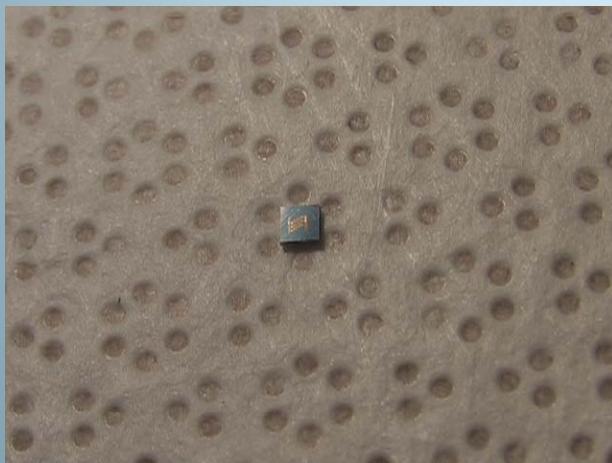
# Light Control Device



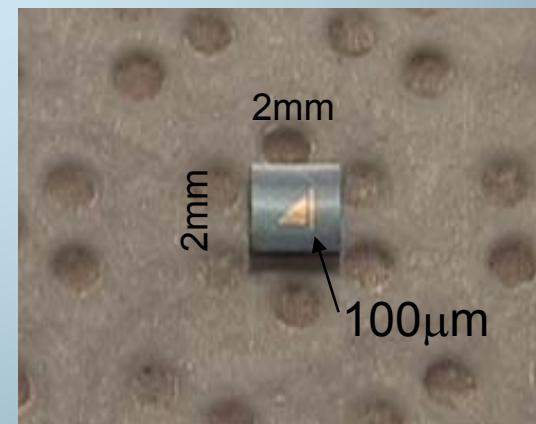
Patterns made with E-Beam Lithography



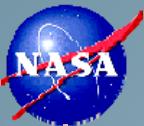
All-Solid-State Beam Scanner



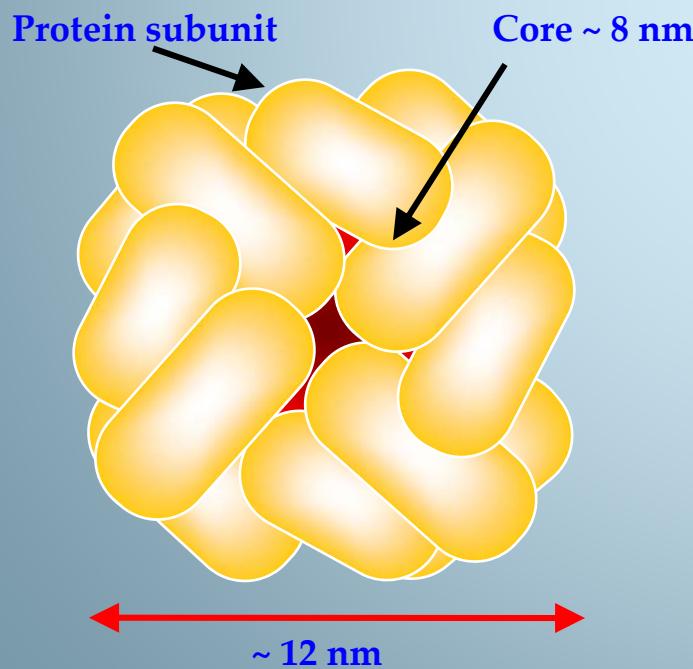
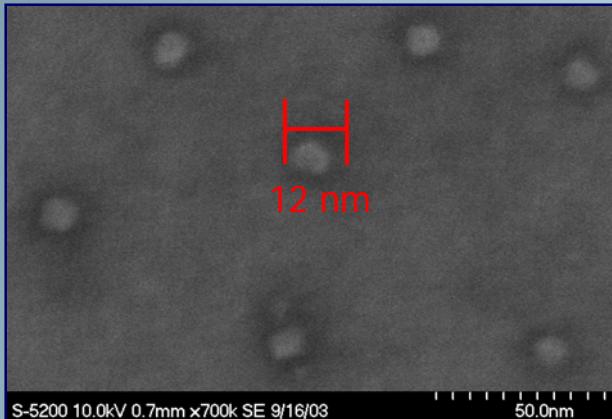
All S.S. Beam Scanner Array



Solid State Beam Displacer



# Ferritin Protein



- Iron storage protein in biological mechanisms in human, animal, and even bacteria
- 24 subunits
- Contains up to ~4500 Fe<sup>3+</sup> atoms
- Stable and robust structure to withstand biologically extremes of high temperature (up to 80 °C) and pH variations (2.0-10.0)
- 2, 3, 4-fold symmetry channels for the transport of ions and molecules.
- Hydrophilic 3 fold (Fe<sup>2+</sup>)/ Hydrophobic 4 fold
- Electron conduction through ferritin shell is possible.
- Core materials –
  - Iron (Fe), Cobalt (Co), Manganese (Mn), Nickel (Ni), Platinum (Pt), Semiconductors (CdS, CdSe)
  - Magnetite-maghemite
  - Trimethylamine-N-oxide, etc.

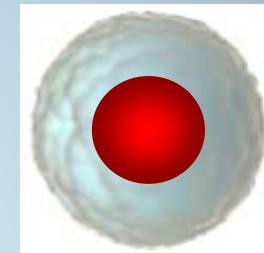


# Biomineralization & Reconstitution of Ferritin Core



Apoferitin

M<sup>2+</sup>, Oxidant



Ferritin reconstituted  
with M<sup>3+</sup>



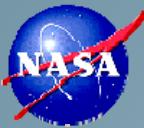
M : Core materials ---- Fe (natural)

Co, Mn, Ni, Pt, As, P, V (successful)

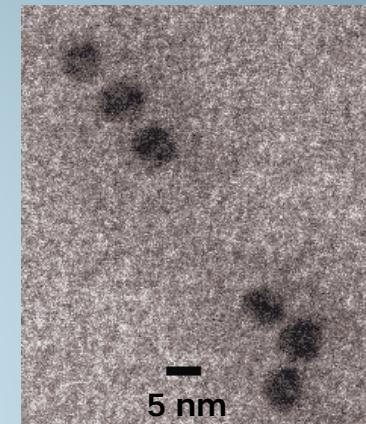
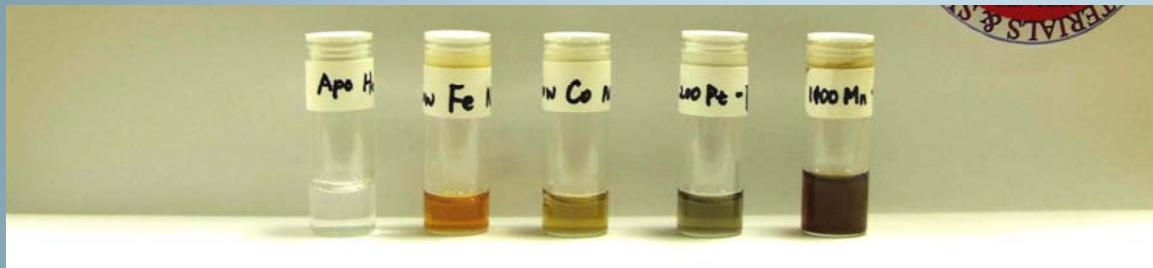
CdS, CdSe (successful)

Magnetite-maghemite (ferrimagnetic)

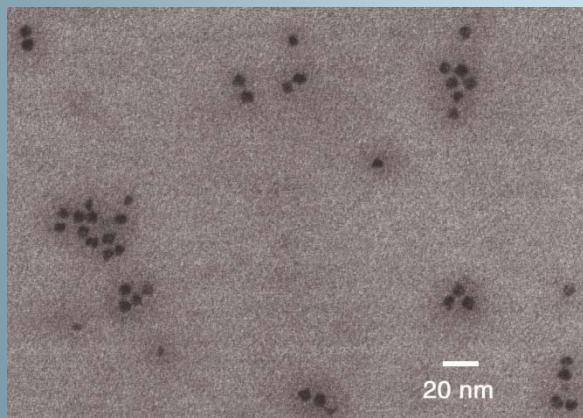
Trimethylamine-N-oxide (superparamagnetic)



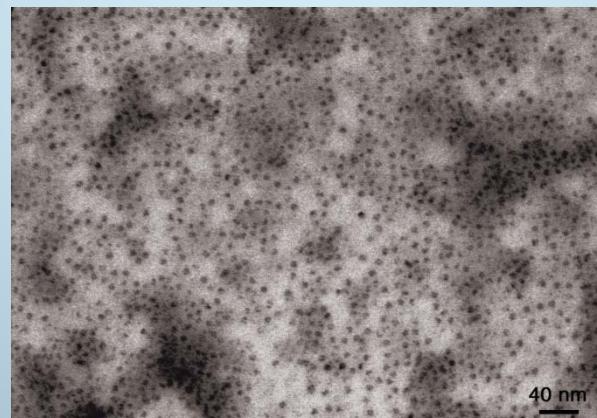
# Chemically Reconstituted Ferritins



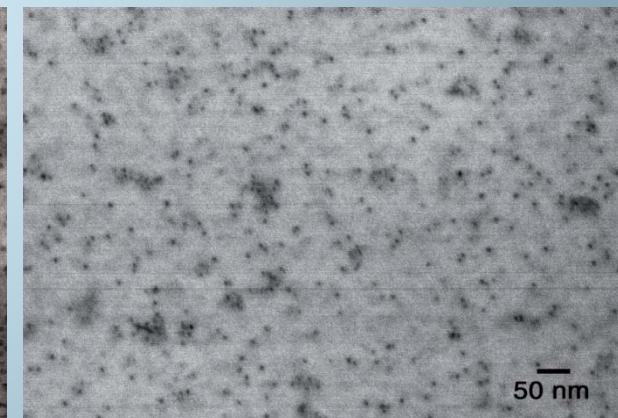
STEM image of Fe-cored ferritins



Fe-cored ferritins

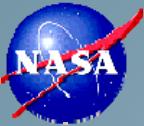


Co-cored ferritins



Mn-cored ferritins

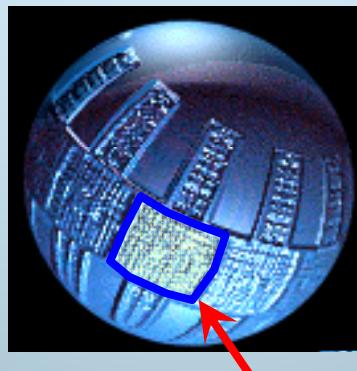
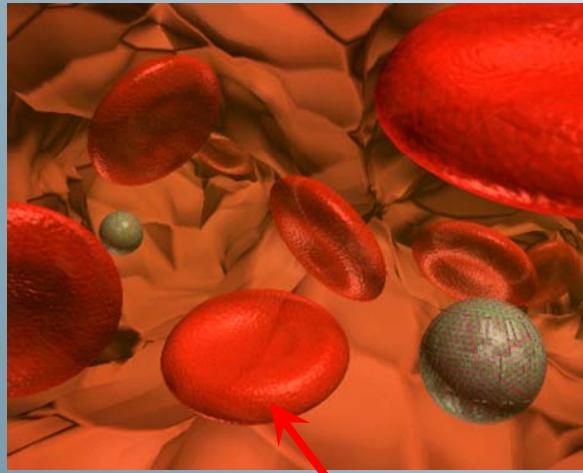
*Inorg. Chem.*, **44**, 3738-3745 (2005).  
*Chem. Commun.*, (32), 4101 -4103 (2005).



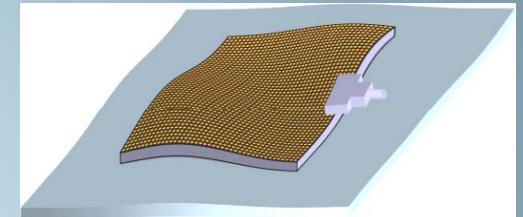
# Why Bio-Nanobattery ?

*What about*

- **Distributed** power storage ?
- **Flexible thin-film** battery ? - Designer's dream !!
- **Easy embodiment** with power harvesting devices ?
- **Biocompatibility** with in-vivo nanodevices ?
- **Light weight** and high energy density ?
- **Chip scale power source** ?
  - Intelligent and autonomous operation



Bio-nanobattery patch installed  
in autonomous bio-nanorobot



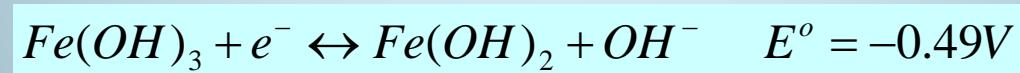
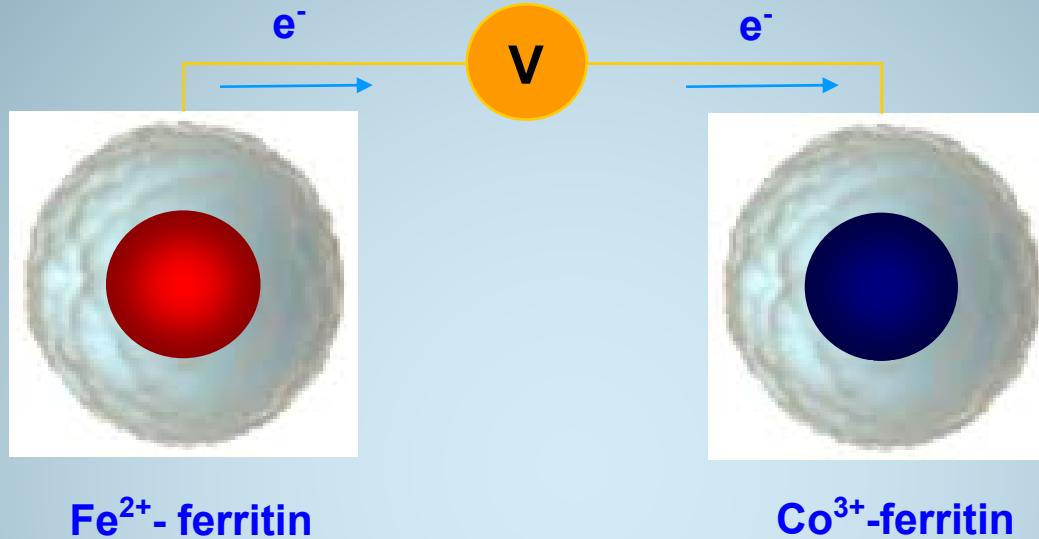
Flexible Nanobattery Film



Wearable Electronics (Philips)



# Bionanobattery Concept



$\text{Fe(OH)}_3/\text{Fe(OH)}_2 \parallel \text{CoOOH/Co(OH)}_2 \quad E_{\text{cell}} = 0.66\text{ V}$

$\text{Fe(OH)}_3/\text{Fe(OH)}_2 \parallel \gamma\text{-MnOOH/Mn(OH)}_2 \quad E_{\text{cell}} = 0.20\text{ V}$

$\text{Fe(OH)}_3/\text{Fe(OH)}_2 \parallel \text{NiOOH/Ni(OH)}_2 \quad E_{\text{cell}} = 0.97\text{ V}$



# Theoretical Values of Bionanobattery

→ Anode  
↓ Cathode

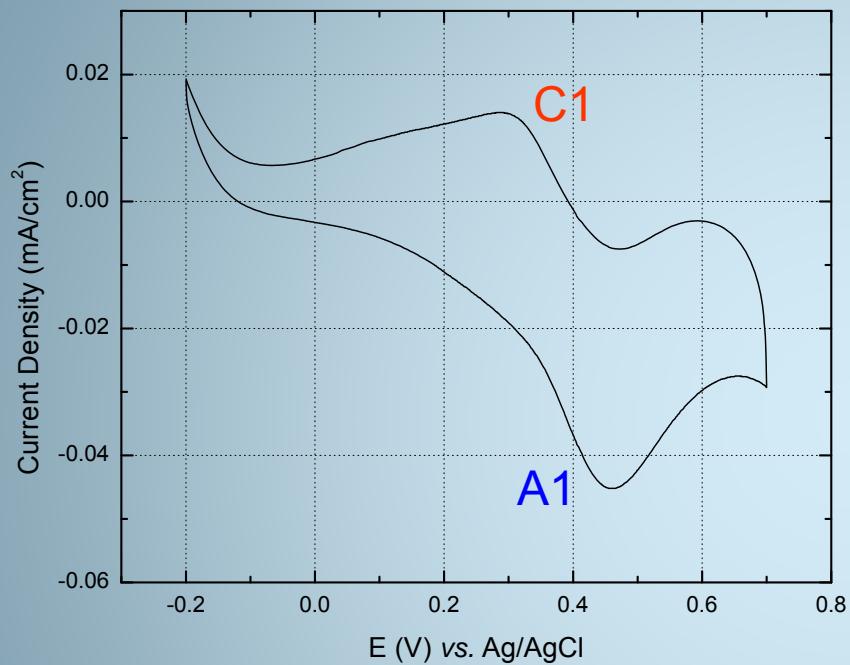
Zn	Zn	Cd	Fe	V	Hg	Mn	Co	Ni
Zn								
Cd	0.422							
Fe	0.756	0.334						
V	0.760	0.338	0.004					
Hg	1.344	0.922	0.588	0.584		0.388		
Mn	0.956 (1.606)*	0.534 (1.184)	0.200 (0.850)	0.196 (0.846)	(0.262)		(0.190)	
Co	1.416V	0.994	0.660	0.656	0.072	0.120		
Ni	1.726	1.304	0.970	0.966	0.382	0.770	0.310	

$Zn^0/Zn^{2+}$ : -1.246 V  
 $Cd^0/Cd^{2+}$ : -0.824 V  
 $Fe^{2+}/Fe^{3+}$ : -0.49 V  
 $V^{2+}/V^{3+}$ : -0.486 V  
 $Hg^0/Hg^{2+}$ : 0.098 V  
 $Mn^{2+}/Mn^{3+}$ : -0.29 V  
 $Co^{2+}/Co^{3+}$ : 0.17 V  
 $Ni^{2+}/Ni^{3+}$ : 0.48 V

(\*) Mn represents as  $\gamma\text{-MnO}_2$  inside Ferritin.

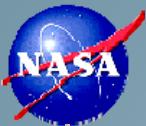


# Ni-Cored Ferritin

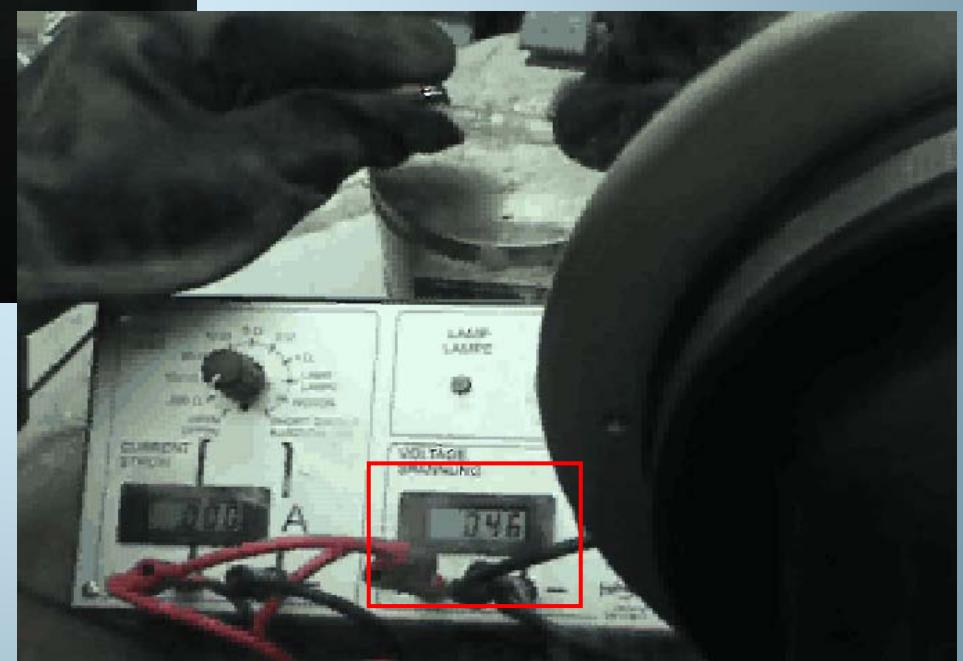
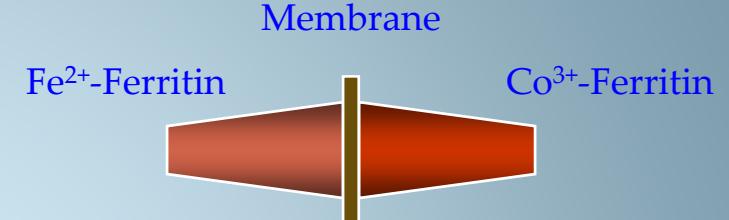
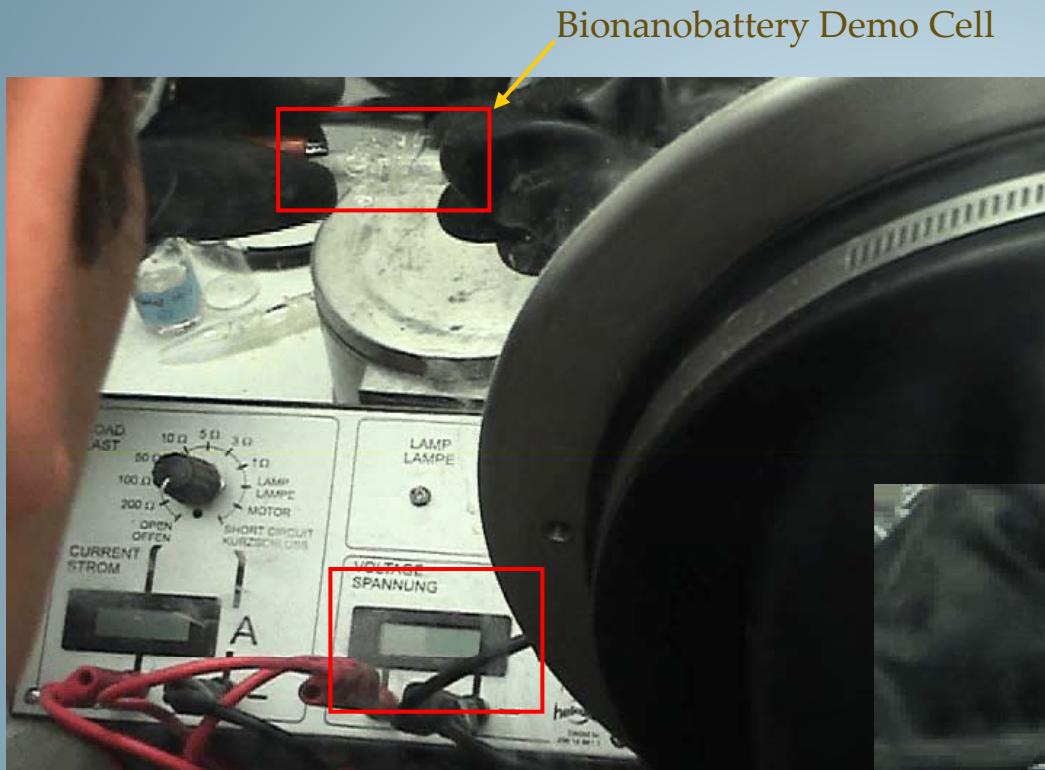


CV of physically adsorbed Ni-cored ferritin on Au electrode in 0.05 M phosphate buffer (pH 7.5 and pH 9.0) at the scan rate of 100 mV/s.

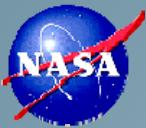
	Co	Mn	Ni
Fe	500 mV	480 mV	790 mV



# Fe-Co Bionanobattery Cell – Wet Cell



0.46 V / Unit Cell



## Fe-Co Bionanobattery Cell – Solid Electrodes



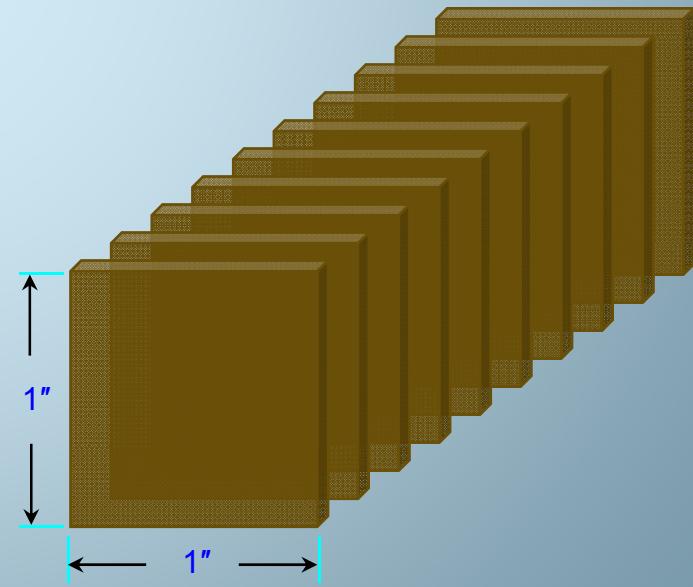
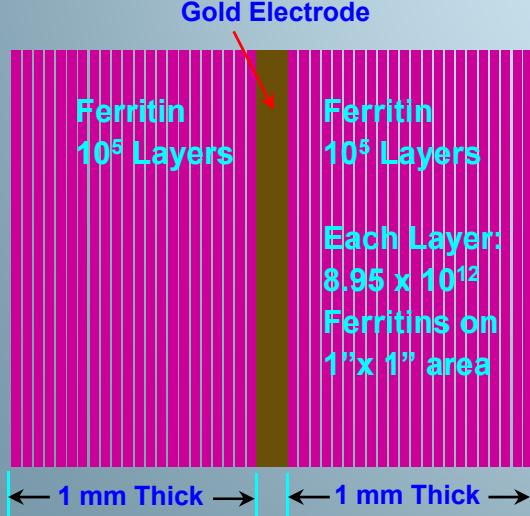
0.25 V / Unit Cell

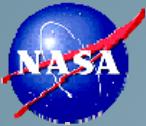




# Estimation of Electrical Output

- Electrode: 1" x 1" gold films coated on both sides of a quartz slide
- Total number of ferritin on each layer of 1" x 1" area:  $4.48 \times 10^{12}$
- Total available electrons:  $2 \times 10^{16}$  per layer =  $3.2 \times 10^{-3}$  Coulomb
- Charge Density per Electrode (2 x  $10^5$  layers): 640 Coulomb
- Cell Charge Density (array of 10 electrodes): 6400 Coulomb
- Operational Run-time: 6400 seconds when  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$ - $\text{Co}^{3+}$  electrodes discharge 1 C/sec
- If we connect 10 gold electrodes together, then
  - Parallel connection: 0.79 V, 1 A (2844 mWh)
  - Serial connection: 7.9 V, 100 mA





# Conclusion

The areas discussed are still under development.

- Nano structured materials for TE applications
  - SiGe and Be-Te
  - Nano particles and nanoshells
- Quantum technology for optical devices
  - Quantum apertures
  - Smart optical materials
  - Micro spectrometer
- Bio-template oriented materials
  - Bionanobattery
  - Biofuel cells
  - Energetic materials